

WEDNESDAY 30p WEDNESDAY

AMSTERDAM for 60p return 1000 flights to be won

Famous for a day The rise of the micro-celebrity page 18

InterFace Creme APPLE'S NEW WINNER

The new French Invasion The brain drain across the Channel page 13

'Euro could trigger civil unrest' Hague attacks 'the old men of Europe'

FROM ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT, IN FONTAINEBLEAU

WILLIAM HAGUE was accused last night of being more extreme on Europe than Margaret Thatcher after issuing a warning that the single currency could trigger civil unrest across the Continent.

The Tory leader said that supporters of monetary union wanted to extinguish British nationalism and predicted that the advent of the euro would lead to a massive Brussels takeover of tax and spending powers. And because the single currency was irreversible, members could find themselves in the economic equivalent of a "burning building with no exits".

But even before he had delivered his speech to the Inland Business School in Fontainebleau, Mr Hague had provoked a furious reaction from senior Tory Euro-enthusiasts, who said that the party could never win if it did not unite on Europe. Michael Heseltine, the former Deputy Prime Minister, accused him of using language more extreme than anything Margaret Thatcher had delivered.

Mr Hague, the youngest Tory leader for 200 years, had turned his fire on the old men of Europe who were driving the integration train forward because of a wartime desire to achieve peace by creating a European super-state.

In a pointed swipe at Mr Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke, he said: "The time has come to ask whether a 50-year-old solution devised to heal a war-torn continent should dictate what happens in Europe over the next 50 years. I believe that it should not. But I fear that it might."

The time had come for a fresh approach. "The task for our generation is to persuade the European Union that it has to stop addressing the problems of the 1940s with solutions devised in the 1950s."

Europe's leaders were enthralled to the notion of replacing the nation state as the focus for patriotic fervour with a new and enlarged European state, he said. They were the European politicians who argued in favour of a common European foreign and defence policy, a common criminal justice and immigration system, with tax and spending powers taken out of the hands of national exchequers and given to Brussels.

Duty-free to go: Tax haven levy

Duty-free shopping for European travellers will be abolished on schedule in July next year despite pressure for a change of heart from Germany and a handful of other states, EU ministers decided yesterday.

And banks in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man could be forced to levy tax on their customers' savings income or report on them to EU governments under a law to be proposed today by the Commission.

And start facing up to the challenges of the new century. Europe's leaders were enthralled to the notion of replacing the nation state as the focus for patriotic fervour with a new and enlarged European state, he said.

But Mr Heseltine said: "I think he is in danger of losing a very important part of the Conservative Party - the centre ground - and you cannot win unless you come from the centre ground. There is a great danger that in opposition we can alienate the European part of the party."

The language is, I think, more extreme than even Mrs Thatcher used. But Edward MacMillan-Scott, leader of the British Tory MEPs, said: "Mr Hague is right to warn of the dangers of combining a European tax-and-spend policy with a single currency in a Europe where all the leaders of power are concentrated in Brussels and Frankfurt."

Peter Riddell, page 12 Leading article, page 21

East currency markets, being replicated closer to home. With member states inextricably signed up to monetary union and unelected bankers taking the key decisions: "One could find oneself trapped in the economic equivalent of a burning building with no exits."

Mr Hague argued that if political union was pushed beyond its limits the peace, stability and prosperity that Europe's founding fathers had been anxious to secure would, in fact, be jeopardised. "My fear is that the creation of a single currency will take European political union well beyond its acceptable limits."

But Mr Hague's speech angered Tory Euro-enthusiasts. Even before he spoke, Mr Clarke had cautioned him: "I hope William Hague is going to go beyond another outburst about the single currency. He has got to try to bring the Conservative party back together again. If he cannot reunite on Europe, we are not going to win a general election."

And Mr Heseltine said: "I think he is in danger of losing a very important part of the Conservative Party - the centre ground - and you cannot win unless you come from the centre ground. There is a great danger that in opposition we can alienate the European part of the party."

The language is, I think, more extreme than even Mrs Thatcher used. But Edward MacMillan-Scott, leader of the British Tory MEPs, said: "Mr Hague is right to warn of the dangers of combining a European tax-and-spend policy with a single currency in a Europe where all the leaders of power are concentrated in Brussels and Frankfurt."

Peter Riddell, page 12 Leading article, page 21



Padre Richard Landall arrives for his court martial in Tidworth, Wilt. He is accused of making suggestive remarks to Shelly Brazier (right)



Shelly Brazier, who is accused of making suggestive remarks to Padre Richard Landall

Army chaplain accused of sex assaults

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

AN ARMY chaplain indecently assaulted and harassed two women who went to him for help while their husbands were serving in Bosnia, a court martial was told yesterday.

Captain Richard Landall is said to have fondled one woman's breasts at a regimental party while she had a three-year-old child on her knee and to have asked her if she would have sex with him before he left his base in Germany for Bosnia. He is also alleged to have rubbed his groin against her bottom while she was bathing children and to have put his hand down her knickers as she changed a video for her daughter.

The 41-year-old chaplain - believed to be the first to face a court martial on such charges - is further accused of embar-

assing a second woman, Shelly Brazier, and her fusilier husband with a stream of suggestive remarks. And he is said to have made sure that it was he, rather than Fusilier Brazier, who kissed Mrs Brazier first when she went to meet the aircraft bringing her husband home from Bosnia.

The court martial, in Tidworth, Wiltshire, was told that Captain Landall had written to apologise to both women and had described himself as a lifelong flirt who would have to curb his behaviour or find himself in deep trouble.

Mrs Brazier, who is pregnant and was overcome with dizziness while giving evidence, told the hearing that she first met Captain Landall when she wanted help to find an English-speaking church soon after being posted to Germany.

Captain Landall had also helped to bring her husband, Sean, back from exercise in Poland when she had to go into hospital and again when their three-month-old daughter was ill with pneumonia. However, she said that she was embarrassed when he kissed her on the cheek after giving her a lift from hospital.

Her discomfort was heightened, she said, with comments such as: "How is my beautiful lady?" and "I love your red hair." She also felt uncomfortable when the chaplain asked her to write to him in Bosnia: "I told him I would be too busy writing to Sean. He was quite insistent that I should write."

Mrs Brazier described how the chaplain arrived unannounced at her home in married quarters when her husband was in Bosnia to complain that his wife was having an affair: "He was

using foul language and I was pretty shocked." She said she ended up in tears after he said that he would have been a lot happier if his wife had been like her. "He said he had found underwear in a laundry basket in his wife's home that his wife had never worn for him. He said he thought he would like it on me. I was embarrassed and I wanted him to get out of the house. I was upset."

Accusing Captain Landall of ruining her husband's homecoming from Bosnia, she said: "He came up behind me and kissed me on the cheek and said: 'There, I had you first, wait till I tell your husband.' I was mortified he had singled me out."

Mrs Brazier denied distorting bawdy and mild flirtation into something with smutty connotations and said she would have liked to see the chaplain behaving in a more godly way, adding: "I didn't want to make a complaint. I didn't want to upset his career by causing problems."

Fusilier Brazier, who is still based in Celle, Germany, told the court: "He came up behind me and kissed me on the cheek and said: 'There, I had you first, wait till I tell your husband.' I was mortified he had singled me out."

Mrs Brazier denied distorting bawdy and mild flirtation into something with smutty connotations and said she would have liked to see the chaplain behaving in a more godly way, adding: "I didn't want to make a complaint. I didn't want to upset his career by causing problems."

Fusilier Brazier, who is still based in Celle, Germany, told the court: "He came up behind me and kissed me on the cheek and said: 'There, I had you first, wait till I tell your husband.' I was mortified he had singled me out."

Flexible mortgages for directors and the self employed... and no details of income needed! FINDING A MORTGAGE if you are self employed or a director of your own company can be a frustrating experience. Many lenders will request three year's full audited accounts before an application is even considered, whilst others may refuse such applications completely. Thankfully Freedman & Co., in conjunction with a major UK bank, has developed exclusive mortgage arrangements and a dedicated full advice service to cater for these needs. Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or other loan secured on it. Suitable security and adequate life cover may be required by the lender. Full written quotations on request. Contact Freedman & Co. REF: TD36 Call FREE on 0500 617151 - Fax: 01727 840976 E-mail: freedman@monyservice.co.uk - www.monyservice.co.uk

Gascoigne in Last Chance Saloon

Glen Hoddle warned Paul Gascoigne that any more lapses in behaviour would lead to his being banished from the England World Cup squad.

The England coach will monitor his wayward player's life from his breakfast cereal to his bedtime. Page 48

Table with 2 columns: Category and Price. TV & RADIO 46, 47; WEATHER 24; CROSSWORDS 24, 48; LETTERS 21; OBITUARIES 23; SIMON JENKINS 20; ARTS 37-39; CHESS & BRIDGE 42; COURT & SOCIAL 22; SPORT 40-46, 48; HOMES 34; LAW REPORT 36

Doctors who keep patients in the dark to be struck off

BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

DOCTORS will be struck off if they fail to tell patients the truth about their treatment, the General Medical Council (GMC) announced yesterday. Even though doctors are not legally obliged to tell patients all the details of their treatment, the council has decided that they must do so to improve public confidence in the profession. The move comes after a Court of Appeal ruling last year that doctors were under no legal obligation to tell the truth and therefore could not be sued for concealing the failures that led to a child's death.

Will Powell took the case to the Court of Appeal after his son Robert died aged ten in 1990 from Addison's disease, a rare but treatable hormonal condition. Five doctors failed to diagnose the condition, despite warnings four months earlier by a Swansea hospital that this might be the problem. They then refused to tell Mr Powell what had gone wrong. The court ruled that the doctors were not legally obliged to tell the family what had happened.

law as a safety net for people when doctors are untruthful." The Court of Appeal ruling caused outrage and the GMC, which is the profession's disciplinary body, decided to tighten its guidelines to make dishonesty an offence of professional misconduct. "Patients have a right to expect that doctors will explain things to them fully and honestly, especially in the unlikely event that something goes wrong in their treatment," Sir Donald Irvine, president of the GMC, said yesterday at the start of a meeting to approve the new guidelines. "In future, whatever the law requires, irrespec-

tive of the legality of the circumstances, there is an ethical requirement for a doctor to be open and frank." The requirement for honesty and openness is included in a revised version of the booklet Good Medical Practice, issued to all 180,000 registered doctors three years ago. This has been brought up to date and will form the benchmark on which disciplinary proceedings will be based. Its main points are: Doctors must not only tell the truth but, where appropriate, must offer an apology. Doctors have a duty to keep the patient fully informed throughout treatment. If things go wrong then there has to be a full explanation. Doctors have to attempt to use language that the patient can understand easily. A poll among 794 doctors taken by the GMC found that 37 per cent did not think that they should be disciplined for failing to treat a patient politely or for not giving information in clear language. Sir Cyril Chantler, chairman of the GMC's standards committee, said: "We don't require doctors to incriminate themselves in criminal matters, but short of that we do believe that it is the duty of the doctor to be open with their patients and parents of child-



Your outfit is absolutely ghastly



Saltwood Castle, left, the historic home of Alan Clark

Clark's castle cited in critical report

BY MARCUS BINNEY

ENGLISH HERITAGE'S new policy of "naming and shaming" owners of decaying historic buildings met its first counter-salvo from Alan Clark, the Tory MP and owner of the medieval Saltwood castle in Kent. In its new register of Buildings at Risk, English Heritage lists the condition of the castle, pride of Mr Clark's father, the famous art historian Lord Clark, as "Poor. Part occupied." Its condition is given a "C" rating for "slow decay; no solution agreed." The register continues: "The late 14th century Outer Bailey is believed to be deteriorating."

Yesterday an English Heritage spokesman said: "Bailey walls as they are known are in part of the building is attached to the keep and is covered in ivy, which doesn't help." He continued: "We have discussed this with the owner in the past, but there seems to be no resolution at the moment. I think his inquiries have centred on grants." Last night Mr Clark rejected any suggestion that he had applied for a grant. "I have never taken a penny of public money in my life, apart from my salary as an MP. I have never at any stage applied, let alone accepted a grant." The 70-year-old former Defence Minister, once estimated to be worth £40 million, recently admitted that bats often invaded the castle library while he and his wife

21

Arms and the woman who is unafraid to make enemies

Despot clings to power declared the placards for yesterday's London Evening Standard. So our wily Foreign Secretary was digging in?

MPs entered the chamber for a statement from Foreign Office ministers, half-expecting the beleaguered Robin Cook to make yet another appeal for time to sort out his difficulties.

But it was the difficulties of another diminutive power-freak that were to engage Parliament's attention. As Suharto totters, Britons in

Indonesia were being helped to leave, the Government announced. Derek Fatchett, the minister responsible, is the sort of competent, understated junior minister who, failing to leave any footprint on the places where he treads, will evade the vengeful hounds of political ill-fortune and surely go far.

Not that the hounds will need to exert themselves much. Easier quarry is so close to hand. Patrick Nicholls (C, Teignbridge) chose the moment to run his support for President Suharto

up the Tory flagpole. To the horror of his own front bench, Mr Nicholls declared that the Indonesian dictator was dreadfully maligned — and most unfairly, too. "Whatever his shortcomings," barked the sharp-toothed and terrier-like MP, Suharto had improved the condition of his people.

We await Mr Nicholls's judgment on Poi Pot. Whatever his shortcomings, he did put Cambodia on the map. Whatever Joe Stalin's shortcomings, he put more bobbies on the beat in Moscow.

"History will reassess the Tory flagpole. To the horror of his own front bench, Mr Nicholls declared that the Indonesian dictator was dreadfully maligned — and most unfairly, too. "Whatever his shortcomings," barked the sharp-toothed and terrier-like MP, Suharto had improved the condition of his people.



Suharto," declared Nicholls, to squirms around him and squeals opposite. Maybe History is unlikely to reassess Mr Nicholls.

Your sketchwriter is beginning to reassess Ann Clwyd (Lab, Cynon Valley), however. Tediiously righteous she may be, but this dogged campaigner for the world's oppressed has real courage and stamina.

She won't give up and she won't shut up. If she had not blown her career chances long ago with her refusal to be soft-soaped by ministers, she would have blown them yesterday.

She tore into Fatchett — that Conservative arms sales to the Indonesian regime were a wicked mistake did not excuse her own party from having complicity in today's trade "propping up this rotten, corrupt regime".

Whether the subject is Colombia, Iraq, Indonesia, Nigeria or Turkey — torture, child labour or malnutrition — Ms Clwyd's presence in the chamber causes an irritated tightening in the ministerial

jaw. She won't give up and she won't shut up. If she had not blown her career chances long ago with her refusal to be soft-soaped by ministers, she would have blown them yesterday.

She tore into Fatchett — that Conservative arms sales to the Indonesian regime were a wicked mistake did not excuse her own party from having complicity in today's trade "propping up this rotten, corrupt regime".

Whether the subject is Colombia, Iraq, Indonesia, Nigeria or Turkey — torture, child labour or malnutrition — Ms Clwyd's presence in the chamber causes an irritated tightening in the ministerial

sued them? Why not revoke them now? Yet "the Government agreed another 56 licences last month". Why?

Fatchett, winded, praised her principles and ignored her question. She will be back. Of that we may be sure.

Contrast Ms Clwyd with Ross Cranston (Lab, Dudley N) who, minutes earlier, had asked Scottish ministers whether they would "make a statement on how Government policy is affecting health provision in Scotland" (abracadabra! The Minister was

ready with joyful facts) or Russell Brown (Lab, Dumfries) who asked whether a minister "would agree with me that what rural areas have not had in the past will come through the actions of this Government".

Not least among the moral dilemmas that trouble a sketchwriter is the knowledge that to aim a journalistic kick at creeps like Cranston and Brown only increases their chances of promotion. To praise Ann Clwyd only invites another whips' black mark against her name.

Glamour and energy is injected into Ulster Unionist Party's flagging 'yes' campaign

U2 concert spectacular gives boost to Trimble

By MARTIN FLETCHER

THE Ulster Unionist Party pulled off its one and only campaign spectacular last night when the Irish rock star Bono held aloft David Trimble's hand and urged Northern Ireland to vote "yes" on Friday.

Flanked by Mr Trimble and John Hume, Northern Ireland's nationalist leader, Bono said he was in Belfast to convince "the people who have real concerns, genuine concerns about the peace agreement still to vote 'yes' because to vote 'no' is to play into the hands of the extremists".

Asked how he intended to persuade the nay sayers, he replied: "Deafen them."

It was one of the most unlikely alliances in Irish history, but last night's concert by U2 and the Northern Ireland group Ash finally injected some glitz, glamour and energy into a dismal "yes" campaign that has lost ground daily to the accord's opponents. Whether it came in time to prevent a majority of Unionists dealing a near fatal blow by voting "no" in three days remains to be seen.

Clad in sober suits and looking distinctly stiff and formal, Mr Trimble and Mr Hume waited like an official welcoming party to greet the rock stars as they arrived outside Belfast's showpiece Waterfront Hall. They then staged a brief but highly orchestrated press conference before scores of television

cameras by the Lagan River that ended with the two beaming leaders, Bono, and Tim Wheeler, Ash's singer, clasping hands and holding their arms aloft.

Bono chided Bob McCartney, the UK Unionist Party leader who is spearheading the "no" campaign, for calling last night's audience of 2,000 Catholic and Protestant sixth-formers "silly and superficial". They were he said "the future".

Mr Trimble said the concert epitomised the optimistic forward-looking approach of the accord. Mr Hume said people would "not just be voting for themselves but for their children and grandchildren, because they are voting to lay the foundation for lasting peace and stability and a society in which all sections of the community will leave aside their quarrel and work together."

This was Mr Hume's and Mr Trimble's first joint appearance of the campaign. The politicians and pop stars then went inside for the concert, performed against a backdrop of a huge "yes" hoarding.

Mr Trimble's Ulster Unionist Party may be split down the middle, and Unionists may be threatening to reject his cherished peace accord, but the man showed earlier in the day that he has not lost his sense of humour. Before last night's concert, the cerebral, grey-suited, 53-year-old opera buff sat down with the young pop



Bono of the Irish group U2 with John Hume and David Trimble at a press conference in Belfast before the rock concert held last night

group Ash for one of the most light-hearted — and best-attended — press conferences of his career.

What would he be wearing, he was asked? "We're working on that one," Mr Trimble replied to laughter. "Unfortunately my outfit with tails is in my flat in London."

When was the last time he attended a rock concert? Mr Trimble scratched his head. "The last concert I attended was Vaughan Williams's *Pilgrims Progress*, and the next concert I'm attending is Strauss at the Festival Hall on Monday." A few minutes later he remembered. "It was Ben E. King. I can't tell you when because that would reveal how old I am."

What did he think of Ash's music? "I'm really looking forward to hearing it," he replied diplomatically. And was it not odd that Jeffrey Donaldson, the youngest UUP MP by about 20 years, would not be attending? "Life is never without paradox," Mr Trimble parried. Mr Donaldson is, of course, a prominent opponent of the accord.

Mr Trimble took his eldest daughter Victoria, aged 14, to the concert but left his other three children behind. He said the concert symbolised how Northern Ireland's youth should be able to live normal carefree lives — going wherever they wanted, whenever they wanted and with whom they wanted.

Ash are a group of Protestants from Downpatrick, Co Down. "We were born in the middle of the Troubles," said Rick McMurray, the drummer, "and we have seen nearly every day on television bombings, shootings and all that. The 'yes' campaign is providing a way forward and we just want to be part of that."

He said the group had thought of changing the lyrics of its song *Oh Yeah to Vote Yes*, but dismissed the idea as "cheesy". Tim Wheeler, the singer, added: "This is important. It's something we really, genuinely believe in."

Simon Jenkins, page 20
Leading article, page 21
Letters, page 21

Loyalists who revel in the 'Wright' way

Audrey Magee visits the estates that speak with only one voice on the Ulster deal

THE face of Billy Wright looks down from the freshly painted mural on the gable end of a house at the entrance to the fiercely loyalist Brownstown Estate in Portadown.

Wright, the leader of the Loyalist Volunteer Force shot dead by the Republican INLA in the Maze Prison at Christmas, is still seen as the protector of loyalist Ulster. His face and name remain a potent force, appearing on flyers called "The Wright View", calling on people to vote "no" in Friday's referendum.

His legacy is taking hold, at least on the loyalist estates he controlled. There, the residents with houses decorated in Union flags are either adamant in their intention to vote "no" or uncertain and likely to vote "no".

Their trenchant opposition to the Belfast agreement comes despite the fact that their estates are in the heart of the Upper Bann constituency held by David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist Party leader. Clifford Forbes, who attended Wright's funeral, said every-

one he knew was voting "no". "Why should anyone vote 'yes' for something that is going to lead to a united Ireland?" asked Mr Forbes, a community worker on the loyalist estates. "Tony Blair cannot afford to have the IRA bombing the mainland because it stops investment in Britain. But rather than take on the IRA and sort them out, he expects us to make concessions. They appease the IRA and make us suffer. People around here aren't having it."

The people on the Brownstown Estate and Rectory Park where Wright lived and reigned, spoke of betrayal by the British Government.



Wright: his face is a potent force

One elderly man said Mr Blair was trying to trick people into a united Ireland. "I think the whole thing is a con job. The British Government does not want to say directly to us that they want out, but want people to vote themselves into a united Ireland."

Portadown, where the majority of the population is Protestant, has been torn apart for the past three years by Drumcree, the July stand-off between Catholic residents and Orangemen intent on walking down the Gargachy Road. Loyalists are adamant that they have conceded enough on marches and other issues, and will not, despite

Mr Blair's pleadings, give any more. To emphasise the point, opponents of the agreement have stretched a luminous yellow banner proclaiming "Mid-Ulster Says No" across the road leading to loyalist estates.

"We're being told that if we vote 'no', the British Government will not want anything more to do with us," said Christine Lathe, a mother of three living in Rectory Park. "They have no right to do that. We should not be told we're voting for war just because we disagree with the agreement. Of course I want peace, but not at any price, not at the price of being taken into a united Ireland."

A woman had a narrow escape yesterday when she opened a letter bomb at the tourism office in Dublin. She raised the alarm when she noticed wires and a battery in what appeared to be a packaged video cassette. Army experts defused the bomb, which contained ball bearings and a small amount of explosive. Loyalist terrorists are thought to have sent it.

RUC on alert for terror strike in run-up to vote

By MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

POLICE in Northern Ireland have gone on high alert in the expectation that republican terrorists opposed to the peace accord will mount attacks to undermine Unionists in the final run-up to Friday's referendum.

"It's clear there's a threat from extremist groups determined to wreck the process," said a Royal Ulster Constabulary spokesman. "Our biggest concern is another bomb or a shooting."

The warning came as the biggest poll yet on the accord showed how divided Unionists are. Of Protestants 34 per cent planned to vote "yes", 32 per cent "no", and 31 per cent were undecided. However, the Belfast Telegraph-Ulster Television survey was conducted before the IRA's Balcombe Street gang enraged Unionists with its triumphalist appearance at Sinn Fein's conference.

David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist Party leader, insisted Unionist voters had got over that event and declared: "We are now getting into the final straight and you are going to see the 'yes' campaign building through to Friday."

Last night he and John Hume, the nationalist SDLP leader, were making their first joint appearance of the campaign at a Belfast rock concert by U2 and Ash to support the accord. The event was unpre-

cedented in the staid world of Irish politics.

Mr Blair, who will today visit Northern Ireland for the third time in three weeks, appealed to world leaders for investment. The Prime Minister told a world trade summit in Geneva that a "yes" vote would lead to a permanent end to violence. "I hope when you return home you will all encourage your companies to look at the new opportunities for trade and investment in Northern Ireland that the agreement will bring."

In a BBC Radio Ulster phone-in, Mr Blair offered praise for Mr Trimble and called him "one of the toughest negotiators I have ever come across". He gave further assurances on the issues of prisoner releases and disarmament, and accused the accord's opponents of peddling "half truths and innuendos".

Paddy Ashdown visited the Province yesterday. The Liberal Democrat leader said he would be prepared to consider the reintroduction of internment to defeat terrorist splinter groups who persisted with violence after the peace accord was approved.

"The Government needs to be very robust indeed with those who seek to undermine the sovereign will of the people," he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Maternity pay may be extended

The Government is considering extending statutory maternity pay to the one in five working women who earn too little to qualify for it.

A review of maternity pay will be included in the *Fairness at Work* White Paper published by the Department of Trade and Industry tomorrow. Ministers are also exploring the possibility of giving employees a statutory right to "time off for family emergencies".

Extending maternity pay of £57 a week to the 50,000 working mothers who earn less than £64 a week for the current statutory minimum period of 18 weeks would cost nearly £52 million a year.

Dentists cleared

Two dentists accused of refusing to treat HIV-positive patients were found not guilty of serious professional misconduct by a committee of the General Dental Council. Two HIV-positive men complained that they had been turned away by Stylianos Criticos and Martin Gilbert of Camden Dental Surgery, North London.

Ovarian evidence

Clinical evidence was published yesterday that an expensive drug treatment for ovarian cancer can buy an extra year of life. Many doctors refuse to prescribe Taxol, at £7,500 a year, because of uncertainty over its efficiency. Now research involving 700 patients has been presented to the American Society of Clinical Oncology in Los Angeles.

Ofwat attacked

MPs today call for water companies to be subject to more fines and financial payments over inadequate water services. The Public Accounts Committee accuses Ofwat of being slow and using inadequate measures to protect the public from exploitation by monopoly water suppliers. It also criticises the growth of water industry "fat cats".

Begging guide

Beggars in Edinburgh have drawn up a code of conduct in an attempt to clean up their image. The guidelines will be presented to councillors tomorrow when they discuss plans to introduce a by-law against aggressive begging. They include hints on how to avoid harassing the public and they also warn against swearing.

Alarm for clergy

A 3in-wide silver crucifix concealing a personal alarm went on sale for clergy needing protection against attack. The £169 cross was launched at the National Christian Resources Exhibition at Esher, Surrey. A survey of 242 ministers by the organisers found that one in ten had been attacked and nearly one in three had been threatened.

Harrow to faces pris trips swi

Man, 33, is held over murder of prostitutes

I am be

Campers go w

Those who evolve succeed.

e-business. evolution for business.

For a free guide Freefone 0800 800 800 or visit us at ebusiness.bt.com

BT

حكذا من الاصل



Boys with the Crown Prince of Jordan in 1995. Jackson is on the far left of the group

Harrow teacher faces prison for trips swindle

BY PETER FOSTER AND JOANNA BALE

A HARROW schoolmaster is facing prison after being found guilty of stealing more than £35,000 from a school trip fund to pay his children's school fees and settle mortgage arrears.

Peter Jackson, 36, organised overseas expeditions to foster leadership and independence in pupils at the public school. He collected thousands of pounds from parents for trips to Florida, Africa, and Jordan, but spent much of it trying to fend off creditors, including the school's bookshop.

Yesterday the former geography teacher was told that a custodial term was "inevitable" when he is sentenced on Friday at Wood Green Crown Court, North London, for his conviction on 12 sample counts of theft and one of forgery.

Jackson's story yesterday elicited sadness from the parents and staff whose trust he betrayed when his financial affairs ran out of control. In evidence, he told how his £28,000-a-year salary was insufficient to service the debt that he and his wife had run when one of their daughters fell fatally ill in the months before he joined Harrow in September, 1988. The couple ran up considerable expenses living in central London so they could be near their daughter

at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. Two years later, the family faced another tragedy when a new baby died shortly after birth. Jackson said that his children were so traumatised that he had felt a duty to send them to private schools which would provide a more supportive atmosphere.

During his three-week trial a stream of parents including Viscount Dungarvan and the Prince of Yugoslavia parents testified to the dedication of a teacher who devoted much of his spare time to his pupils, organising foreign expeditions, coaching the water-polo team and running the naval section of the cadet force.

But behind the scenes the model teacher nicknamed Action Man by pupils, was spiralling uncontrollably into

debt. Michael Liddiard, the school bursar at the time, said that it was clear in 1995 that Jackson was in a "financial bind", owing more than £1,000 bookshop and dining hall, as well as to "outside traders". Part of his salary was being deducted at source to pay off his arrears.

However, Jackson's debts were more serious than anyone imagined. In 1993, almost four years before he faced the ignominy of being arrested in the headmaster's study, a County Court judgment shows him being ordered to pay £2,363 to a creditor at Weymouth. In the following four years, six further judgments were made, bringing the total to more than £30,000.

One parent, whose son was a member of the Tanzania expedition, believes that Jackson was tempted into theft by a desire to provide his children with the sort of private education enjoyed by his charges at Harrow. Jackson, son of a senior Church of England clergyman, was himself privately educated at Bishop's Stortford College, a minor public school in Hertfordshire, before studying at Durham University.

"It is all very sad," the parent added. "I think it must have been very hard for Peter



Peter Jackson: he devoted spare time to pupils, who called him Action Man

to see Harrow boys enjoying the benefits of a private education and be powerless to give that to his own children."

Jackson, who has four children aged 11, 8, 5 and 2, chose St Helen's School for Girls, near Harrow, for his one of his daughters. Fees start at £1,000-a-term. The child left the school last year.

Yesterday the headmaster of Harrow, Nicholas Bontford, said that he "deeply regretted" Jackson had fallen victim to temptation and committed

such a serious breach of trust. Regulations on overseas trips had been tightened.

The trial was told that in 1995, Jackson was using money he had collected for a trip to Zanzibar the next summer to pay travel agents for a water polo training camp in Florida. Between April 1995 and June 1996 Jackson, he was spending money earmarked for the £2,000-per-head Zanzibar trip almost as fast as it rolled in.

In early 1997, he took out a

second mortgage on his thatched cottage in Charminster, Dorset, but his chaotic financial management had finally caught up with him. The Zanzibar account was empty and the travel agent, who was owed almost £40,000, was threatening Harrow with legal action.

He tried to cover his tracks by using an off-the-shelf company, Adventure Corporation Ltd, and telling police that it was holding the £35,000 owed to Sportuallis Travel Ltd.

Chelsea draws crowds with money to bury

BY GUY WALTERS

THE world's most expensive plants were on display when the Chelsea Flower Show opened to the public yesterday. Forty thousand visitors oohed and aahed their way past flora that would wipe out their pension plans.

In the Great Marquee, bonsai trees were prevalent — their price inversely proportional to their height. At the Heron's Bonsai stand, a 6ft, 150-year-old trident maple could have been put in the back of a Volvo for £40,000. In Japan, that would have been cheap banks there have been known to spend millions of pounds on 440-year-old trees.

There were also some absurdly beautiful and expensive orchids. At McBeans Orchids, a 30-year-old *Phragmipedium longifolium* would cost one term's school fees — about £4,000. For £1,000 more, a *Phragmipedium caudatum* could be yours.

A stationary plant may be pricey, but attempting to transport it may be more expensive still. Ruskin's of Uxminster specialises in moving trees, and recently brought a 45ft redwood from Belgium to Britain for £20,000. Its services are particularly in demand by the construction industry, which attempts to make new housing estates look more established by importing fully grown trees.

Flora is not the only form

of garden requisite. The Children's Cottage Company, of Devon, will make a 6ft by 6ft Wendy house, with a slate roof, for £3,500. Those who want it furnished can purchase a bed for £200 and a desk for £270. The price is probably worth paying — if the parents get to enjoy the rest of the garden in peace while their little ones linger in the Wendy house.

Those proud enough to build a replica of their own homes for their children will need to spend at least £5,000.

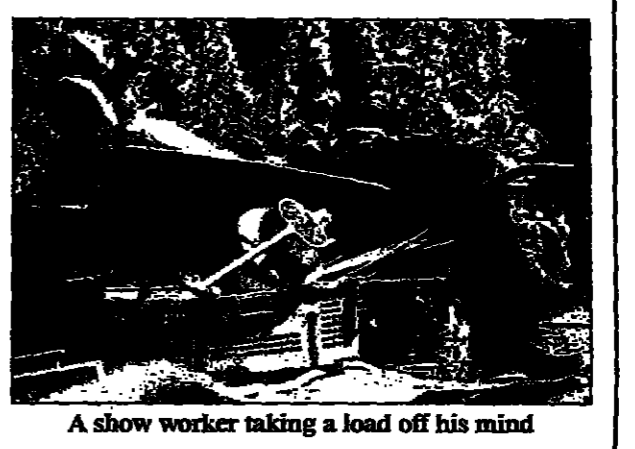
Statuary is not common in the ordinary English garden, but The Sculpture Workshop is attempting to rectify this. Some of their smaller bronzes, such as ducks, sell for hundreds of pounds.

A life-size prancing horse will augment your pride and joy for £120,000. It weighs a ton, and the price does include delivery.

For those who decline to wear watches in the garden, David Harber has sun dials costing up to £2,300. He has recently completed a Bonsai Stonehenge for a Druid-influenced client for £20,000, which tells the correct time all year round.

Unfortunately, none of these suppliers offers loyalty cards to customers, but then Homebase does not have a stand at Chelsea.

Alan Coren, page 20
Alan Toogood, page 22



A show worker taking a load off his mind

Man, 33, is held over murder of prostitutes

BY PETER FOSTER

A MAN aged 33 is being held in connection with the murders of two prostitutes whose bodies were found within a few miles of each other in Leicestershire four years ago.

At the time, the murders of Sarno Paul and Tracy Turner were linked with up to nine killings in the Midlands in which the victims were strangled or beaten and left naked.

Leicestershire police said last night that they had not ruled out questioning the suspect about the other murders.

"It is common practice to communicate with other forces when we arrest someone to see if there are links to any other similar unsolved crimes," a spokesman said.

The body of Miss Paul, a 20-year-old single mother and prostitute from Birmingham, was found in a roadside ditch near Swinford, Leicestershire, in December 1993. She had been strangled.

Three months later the strangled corpse of Ms Turner, 30, was discovered naked beneath a hedgerow in the village of Bineswell, four miles from where Miss Paul's body was dumped. She had disappeared 13 days earlier from a service station on the M6 near Stafford.

'I am a flirt and have been all my life'

Continued from page 1

the court martial that he had got on well with Captain Landall, but that the relationship became strained in Bosnia when the chaplain asked him if he was looking forward to his first night back in Germany. "I said I was looking forward to seeing my wife and daughter. He said 'I suppose you are looking forward to night-time.' I was disgusted. I did not expect it from a padre."

He also said that Captain Landall had asked him if he had a photograph of his wife in a bikini. "I was disgusted," Lieutenant-Colonel Roger Lewis, for the prosecution, also told the hearing that a few days after their return from Bosnia, the chaplain had preached Mrs Brazier and asked her how she had enjoyed her husband's first night home. And when the fusilier and his wife were on their way to complain about the chaplain's behaviour, he whistled as she drove past them.

Fusilier Brazier said that he told the padre he was no longer welcome in his home and Captain Landall had apologised. In a letter to Mrs Brazier, he said that he was deeply saddened that he had offended her. "All I have ever said and done has been with complete and utterly pure motives," he wrote.

"Unfortunately I am a flirt and have been all my life. I

know I will have to curb and control my humour and my flirting in my next posting or I will be in deep trouble.

"Thank you for bringing this problem to my attention. I will try hard to bring it under control or lose it all together."

Earlier, Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis, had told the court that another woman who had been helped by the chaplain had complained about being indecently assaulted. The court martial heard that on one of his first visits to her home, he had said: "I will follow you into the kitchen, you have a good figure."

The first of four alleged assaults over a four-day period occurred at a party on the evening the padre had been



Captain Landall arrives for his court martial

excluded from the Braziers' home, Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis said. Captain Landall had joined the woman on a two-seater sofa where she was sitting with a child on her lap.

"The padre put his arm around her waist under her jumper, and squeezed her breast. When he was with her and touching her breast, he asked her if she would have sex with him before he left Germany."

That night he slept on the woman's sofa and the next day, he sent her flowers with a postcard thanking her "for being there for him". He added: "Sorry about my behaviour last night. Too much to drink. Thank you for the spare bed."

The woman complained that on another occasion when she was bathing three children, Captain Landall rubbed his groin against her bottom. Two days later, he arrived unannounced at her home. Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis said that as she bent down to change a video, the padre put his hand down the back of her jogging trousers, and into her knickers to the depth of his hand.

Captain Landall, of ARBORFIELD, Berkshire, denies four charges of indecent assault, three of harassment and one of conduct prejudicial to good order between January and November 1997. The hearing continues.

Campers go west for total eclipse

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

TENTED encampments will be erected across Cornwall to help to accommodate the 500,000 extra visitors expected for next year's total eclipse.

As many as 80,000 people will have to sleep under canvas as every hotel and guest house in the county is booked for the event, the first total eclipse on the British mainland for 70 years.

A Penzance-based company called 'Total Eclipse of the Sun (Cornwall)' has already attracted bookings from the United States and Japan.

Mark Nicholson, of Cornwall County Council, said eclipse camp sites were

like even more as the figure of half a million in addition to the 250,000 holidaymakers already in the South West may be an underestimate.

He said: "The demand will be there. By the week of the eclipse, the whole county will be chock-a-block, so we are trying to encourage people to come for at least a fortnight. This will be a one-off event and the sky's the limit."

Mr Raymond said that planning the extra accommodation was equivalent to creating a city in the county. The event has already attracted bookings from the United States and Japan.

Mark Nicholson, of Cornwall County Council, said eclipse camp sites were

would be traffic gridlock if everyone tried to arrive and depart at the same time.

He said: "Our advice is to come early and leave late. Do not try to make a day trip out of it or you will find yourself by the side of the road."

In addition to the visitors staying at hotels, guest houses and camp sites, there were plans to bring cruise ships to anchor in Falmouth Bay to see the event, he said.

The eclipse will darken the skies for 2 minutes 6 seconds on the "line of totality" that runs between St Just and Falmouth. The closer to the centre of the line the longer the eclipse — other parts of Britain will experience only a partial eclipse.

Police are planning widespread road closures and a giant one-way traffic

Start a pension now, then you can grow old disgracefully.

PEPS
one account
pensions
life & health

personal pension

Virgin direct

We'll be happy to send you a personal illustration of how the Virgin Personal Pension could work for you. Please let us have the following details and return the coupon to Virgin Direct, FREEPOST ANG4349, PO Box 161, Norwich NR4 6YN.

Full name including title

Address including postcode

Date of birth

Age you want to retire

Telephone number

Day or evening?

I am thinking of investing a month minimum £50

and/or a lump sum of

I am employed I am self-employed

From time to time Virgin Direct and other Virgin companies may send you details of products and services offered by them. If you do not wish to receive this information you should tick this box

Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. The price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount you invest. The basis of tax may change and the value of the tax benefit depends on personal circumstances. Calls to Virgin Direct are recorded and randomly monitored.

Off-shore banks could be forced to tax savers' income

BANKS in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man could be forced to levy tax on their customers' savings income or pass information on them to European Union governments.

The British-controlled tax havens and Luxembourg are a prime target in the scheme aimed at harmonising tax on the income from savings of European citizens in all 15 member states.

Although the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are not directly subject to EU laws, they are targeted in the proposed directive by a clause in which Governments would "commit themselves to ensuring [that] equivalent measures apply" in territories under their control.

Britain, like most member states, already withholds tax on the accounts of residents but, along with the majority of EU states, it exempts non-residents. If the directive is to be proposed today by the Euro-

EC directive poses threat to investors in the Channel Islands, writes Charles Bremner

pean Commission becomes law, it will thus remove the main incentive — a higher investment return — for thousands of British investors to place their savings with investment managers based in Luxembourg or the Channel Islands.

Bankers — and some governments — fear that British and other European investors will move their savings beyond the jurisdiction of the EU in their pursuit of higher investment returns. The chief

beneficiaries could be the US, or more probably Switzerland and the UK's dependencies in the Caribbean.

The plan, which must have the unanimous consent of member states, is already under attack from investment banks, which fear that it will damage the market in Euro-bonds and other financial instruments to the benefit of the United States.

The Treasury is opposed to the compulsory withholding of tax, but says that Britain may support an alternative in the Commission's scheme which will require banks to pass information of accounts regularly to the home authorities of account holders from other EU member states.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, said in Brussels yesterday that the Government would be "very concerned to ensure the protection of the interests of the United Kingdom". He had yet studied the proposal, but he had already



Gordon Brown with the German Finance Minister, Theo Waigel, left, and Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the French Finance Minister, yesterday

taken up the implications for the bond markets. Britain is expected to resist pressure to apply the EU directive to the Channel Islands. Critics of the Commission scheme argue that if such rules were passed, offshore savers who want to avoid tax would simply shift their funds to banking centres beyond EU law.

Resistance from Britain and Luxembourg blocked the Commission's last attempt to promote a Europe-wide withholding tax in 1989. The proposal is, however, expected to pass in some form this time because of a consensus among Governments on the need for measures to end damaging tax competition. Germany,

France and most member states have voiced support for the plan. A question remains over Luxembourg, which makes much of its national income from the banking industry. Jean-Claude Juncker, its Prime Minister, yesterday voiced caution but said he supported the principle of a tax package.

No reprieve for duty-free shopping

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

DUTY-FREE shopping for European travellers will end on schedule in July next year despite pressure for a change of heart from Germany and a few other states. EU ministers decided yesterday

After sounding out finance ministers under Britain's EU presidency, Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, said it was absolutely clear there was no chance of obtaining the unanimity needed to reopen the issue of internal duty-free trade. There was not even a majority in favour of a proposal from Ireland and other states for a study of the impact of the 1991 decision to end sales in July next year, he said.

The verdict from the finance council was welcomed by the EU Commission as a vindication of its efforts to ensure the end of what it deems to be a distortion to the Union's single market.

Mario Monti, the Market Commissioner who has fought a passionate campaign against the duty-free lobby, said ordinary Europeans would no longer have to pay a "subsidy" to the more privileged ones who travelled between EU states. "The interest of a vast silent majority are being protected against the efforts of a very vocal minority," he said. The Commission was ready, however, to discuss ways in which EU funds could be used to soften the blow for retailers, ferry and airport operators.

The duty-free industry, which has been warning of 140,000 imminent job losses, had been hoping for the first signs of a reprieve for the trade after Germany threw its weight behind the idea, promoted by Ireland and Greece.

and France also signalled its consent. Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the French minister, said he was disappointed by yesterday's refusal to call on the EU Commission to review the consequences of abolition.

Mr Brown broke with the neutral line that he had taken so far and proclaimed himself a "longtime sympathiser" of the idea of reviewing the consequences of abolition because of the implication for jobs. "I did not like the decision that has been taken today," he said. The problem was that the decision to end the industry had been taken unanimously by EU states, including Britain, in 1991. The implication was that he disagreed with the position then of the Conservative Government.

However, Mr Brown's words were not borne out by British actions in the council yesterday, where only the ministers from Ireland, Germany, France and Spain backed the idea of a study. Helen Liddell, the junior minister representing the Government rather than the British presidency, took no position.

Ireland and the International Duty Free Confederation said they would fight on to save an industry which, according to their estimates, will lose nearly 150,000 jobs when the trade is ended. The Commission disputes that claim, pointing out that sales will still continue for travellers leaving EU frontiers and that shops at airports and ferry ports will continue to trade.

The French minister said it was clear that the cross-Channel ferry companies would be the hardest hit among French firms.

MPs seek lower age of consent for gays

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

A LABOUR MP and the gay son that she gave up for adoption 30 years ago yesterday joined MPs from all parties to launch a campaign to reduce the age of homosexual consent from 18 to 16.

Ann Keen, MP for Brentford and Isleworth, was reunited with Mark Lloyd Fox after the 31-year-old director of development at the Commonwealth Institute discovered three years ago that he was adopted.

They urged MPs to back an

amendment to the Crime and Disorder Bill which will create an equal age of consent for homosexual and heterosexual young people. The amendment, to be tabled during the Bill's report stage in late June, is expected to be backed overwhelmingly by MPs in a free vote. The move will face strong opposition in the Lords but has a fair chance of getting through.

Mr Lloyd Fox said the move was about human rights rather than just gay rights.

Perfect Night.

The BBC swept the board at Monday evening's BAFTA awards. Of the 32 awards, 23 went to BBC performers, programmes and programme makers. The results demonstrate our commitment to quality across the entire range of TV output. From current affairs to comedy. From drama to graphic design. We'd like to take a moment to thank all this year's winners: before we all go back to working on next year's.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| Programmes | Technical | Special Awards |
| Best Comedy (Programme or Series)
'I'm Alan Partridge' BBC-2 | Best Editing (Factual)
'The Nazis - A Warning From History' BBC-2 | The Academy Fellowship
Bill Cotton, former Managing Director BBC TV |
| Best Comedy Performance
Steve Coogan BBC-2 | Best Editing (Fiction/Ent)
'The Woman in White' BBC-1 | The Richard Dimbleby Award
David Dimbleby |
| Best Light Entertainment (Programme or Series)
'The Fast Show' BBC-2 | Best Photography (Factual)
'Polar Bear' (Wildlife Special) BBC-1 | The Dennis Potter Award
Kay Mellor |
| Best Light Entertainment Performance
Paul Whitehouse, 'The Fast Show' BBC-2 | Best Photography and Lighting (Fiction/Ent)
'The Woman in White' BBC-1 | |
| Best Actress
Daniella Nardini, 'The Lie' BBC-2 | Best Costume Design
'Tom Jones' BBC-1 | |
| Best Drama Series
'Jonathan Creek' BBC-1 | Best Graphic Design
'Election 97' BBC-1 | |
| Best Drama Serial
'Holding On' BBC-2 | Best Sound (Factual)
'Airport' BBC-1 | |
| Best Factual Series
'The Nazis - A Warning From History' BBC-2 | | |
| News and Current Affairs Journalism
'Valentina's Story' (Panorama) BBC-1 | | |



You make it what it is

The British Academy Award is based on a design by Nina Goldfinch.

You needn't cut corners to cut the cost of home insurance.

For a full range of contents insurance, call up the phone and Midland Direct now. We certainly won't cut any corners, but we can knock pounds off your existing premiums.

Midland DIRECT

CALL FREE 0800 277 377

Issued by Midland Bank plc. Member HSBC Group

Royal-w... goldmine after cost c...

Low-cost fares help city breaks to take off

Dolphin, for a new lease of life in the bathroom

هكذا من الاصل

Royal-wedding goldmine closes after cost dispute

BY SIMON DE BRUKELLES

A GOLDMINE that has provided generations of royal wedding rings closed yesterday after a long-running dispute with the Crown Estate.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, the Queen, and the Prince and Princess of Wales all wore rings from the Clogau mine near Dolgellau in Snowdonia. Clogau's owner said yesterday that a demand for increased royalties from the Crown Estate forced him to abandon the oldest and richest goldmine in Wales.

However, he said that he would probably have had to close because of the cost of new safety measures demanded by the Mines and Quarries Inspectorate. Bill Roberts, who has run Clogau for ten years, laid off the three remaining miners, all of whose fathers and grandfathers worked in the mine.

He said: "It was a very sad day but we didn't have any

choice. The Crown Estate wanted us to pay four times the royalties, and in any case we would have had to invest about £100 million to satisfy new safety regulations.

"It doesn't matter whether you employ three miners or 3,000, you still have to have the same safety measures."

The mine was opened in 1842 to exploit rich deposits of copper. In 1854, gold ore was found. At the turn of the century, Clogau was producing 20,000 ounces of gold a year. Gold from the mine is now made into jewellery at Mr Roberts's workshops which employ 20 people in Colwyn Bay.

He refused to disclose the mine's current production but said: "We had a good year and were able to exploit one seam that provided us with reserves to keep the jewellery business going for five, seven or even ten years." Gold from Clogau

was recently used to reset the ruby in the House of Commons mace.

Any new owner would have to sink so much money into the mine that Mr Roberts believes it is no longer viable.

Last night a spokeswoman for the Crown Estate disputed Mr Roberts's claim that he was being asked to pay four times the royalties.

She said that the Crown Estate had issued a High Court writ against Mr Roberts's company Snowdonia Leisure alleging that it failed to pay agreed royalties between 1991 and 1997, in breach of its lease.

She said: "The writ was for forfeiture of the lease, so effectively he is no longer contesting it. The other option we were pursuing was to try to negotiate a new lease to prevent similar problems arising in the future but he says he doesn't wish to do this."



Tom McNally setting out from Gibraltar, disaster struck two days later

Irate fishermen sink sailor's small dream

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

AN ATTEMPT to cross the Atlantic by a lone yachtsman in a boat scarcely bigger than a kitchen sink has been abandoned only two days into the voyage after a confrontation with Moroccan fishermen.

Tom McNally's craft *Vera Hugh II*, the smallest to make the attempt, was damaged when it became entangled in their nets off north Africa.

Mr McNally, 55, bound for New York from Gibraltar, spent nearly 12 hours cutting through steel cables with a hacksaw only to be confronted by the fishermen who demanded compensation.

"The former fine arts lecturer from Liverpool, who spent two years building the 3ft 11in vessel, said: "The water was freezing and I had to keep bobbing under to reach the nets. They were held together with quarter-inch steel cables which took a lot of sawing."

But after pumping out the flooded hull, he was surrounded by the fishermen, who, he says, were armed

with knives. Mr McNally made a mayday call on a satellite telephone before calling base control in Liverpool where his co-ordinator, Mick Pollard, relayed the alert to the British Embassy in Tangiers. A Moroccan gunboat was dispatched and he was escorted to safety.

Mr McNally added: "The rigging and stabiliser were damaged and it was tricky steering to the Canaries. It took me 18 days and I had to keep pumping out water. The main batteries were ruined when the boat was swamped and all the electrical equipment failed except the telephone."

Mr Pollard said: "Unfortunately the damage is more extensive than we first hoped. The hurricane season starts in June and it would be unprofessional and irresponsible to resume the voyage now."

In 1993 Mr McNally briefly held the record for crossing the Atlantic in the smallest craft, in the 5ft 4-in *Vera Hugh*.

Low-cost fares help city breaks to take off

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

EUROPE is regaining its popularity over more exotic destinations as the number of Britons booking overseas summer holidays is expected to exceed ten million for the first time.

A comprehensive survey of travel agency bookings suggests that the strength of the pound, combined with many more low-cost air fares, has encouraged a huge rise in the number of city breaks.

Paris and Amsterdam remain the dominant capitals for summer city breaks, although Madrid, Dublin and Bruges have increased in popularity, according to the survey by Lum Poly, the largest seller of package holidays.

Last year's rapid growth in the long haul market, partly boosted by a wave of building society windfall payouts, has slowed down this year, with the Dominican Republic showing the biggest slump. However, Mexico, Jamaica and Canada have shown slight increases, with America again attracting more than half the long-haul British market. Florida is the most popular long-haul destination this summer, although its share of the holiday market has slipped slightly.

Alcohol is blamed for deaths by drowning

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE deadly combination of hot weather and cold beer led to 69 deaths by drowning last year, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents said yesterday.

In a warning to bathers during the current hot spell, the society said the overheated drinkers wrongly expected Britain's coastal waters to be as warm as the Mediterranean.

Paul Hutchinson, Rospa head of water and leisure, said: "Even competent swimmers fail to appreciate the dangerous effect that swimming in cold water will have. Cold water quickly drains your strength and there are also hazards such as underwater reeds, rubbish, and currents."

There were 440 deaths from drowning last year, with men four times more likely to drown than women. While that figure was slightly down on last year, the 24 who died in swimming pools had doubled from 1996. Another 26 died in their baths.

Motorists have been urged to "keep their cool" to avoid accidents. The AA said: "The hot temperatures play havoc with tempers which can make the roads very dangerous."

IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT FLYING, MAY WE RECOMMEND A BESTSELLER.

Why is the A320 family so popular? Is it because its fuselage is wider than its nearest competitor? Making the A320 the most spacious aircraft in its class. Perhaps it's down to the extra overhead stowage? Or maybe it's because the A320 family has been designed for the 90's and beyond. Not based on a 60's design like our competitor's aircraft. Whatever the reason it's no wonder that more people feel comfortable flying Airbus. 11 major UK airlines agree. As do over 70 worldwide. We're sure you will too. **AIRBUS**

© SETTING THE STANDARDS

http://www.airbus.com

Dolphin, for a new lease of life in the bathroom

Because we're all unique, we all have different needs. Dolphin's range of Walk-in Showers & Power Baths takes into consideration every possible bathing requirement and have made bathing easier, safer, convenient and more comfortable.

- Easy access showers ideal for wheelchairs and walk-in users.
- Half height shower doors, great for assisted bathing.
- Enjoy sit down showering without the fear of slipping.
- Unique "anti-splash" shower system for ultimate safety.
- Power Baths which gently lift you in and out of the water.
- Dolphin fully install all products professionally.

SHOWROOMS OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK For your free brochure and further information about Dolphin Special Needs products call free now on **0800 62 62 48**

Please send me my free brochure and provide further information about Dolphin Special Needs Bathrooms.

Name: _____
Tel: _____
Address: _____

Postcode: _____
Post from Dolphin Special Needs Bathrooms, Freeport, Manchester M16 8HF

Dolphin
SPECIAL NEEDS BATHROOMS

lower age t for gay

edn't cut

s to cut the

of home

nce.

Police want new rules on post sent by killers

Stewart Tendler reports from the Police Federation conference

POLICE are calling for tougher controls to stop jailed sex-killers writing to the families of victims and carrying out big publicity campaigns.

Today in Bournemouth, the annual conference of the Police Federation, representing 120,000 junior officers, is expected to call for a change in rules on the mail sent by prisoners, amid concern that families are suffering renewed anguish.

The call follows the cases of Howard Hughes, convicted for the murder of Sophie Hook, aged 7, and Peter Moore, a serial gay killer, who both waged extensive letter campaigns from their cells.

The motion is being put by Detective Sergeant Peter Kendrick, from North Wales police. Yesterday he said that he did not want to stifle the civil liberties of prisoners, but the families of victims also had rights. Prisons rules allowed the vetting of all mail from category A prisoners. The letters from others can be

randomly checked. Legal correspondence is not checked unless it is suspected of containing a threat to prison security, safety of others or matters of a criminal nature.

Both Hughes and Moore are category-A prisoners, with recommendations that neither should ever be released. Hughes's victim was abducted from the tent where she was sleeping with other children in a garden in Llandudno. Mr Kendrick said that Hughes was jailed in 1996, but a year

later he sent the girl's family a letter from Full Sutton jail listing previous convictions.

The family remonstrated with the prison that vetted his mail and some letters were blocked. But in 1997, he wrote to his solicitor and parts of the letter later appeared in newspapers. Hughes told the prison later that the lawyer passed the letter to his mother who made 650 copies. The letter was sent to MPs, the Home Office, ministers and the local community and included de-

tails from pathologists of the little girl's injuries.

Moore was convicted in 1996 of the murder of four men. He also suggested that he had killed another 17 men. His letters have included apologies to relatives of his victims, appeals for information about an accomplice and claims about other bodies hidden in North Wales.

In addition, there were rapists who wrote to victims and killers who contacted victims' families.

Yesterday the Prison Service said it was impossible to vet all mail, but a higher proportion of mail from category A prisoners was checked than for other inmates. If a victim or their family received mail, it could be blocked.

□ The Sex Offenders Act, which forces paedophiles to register with police after their release, fails to protect the public, the conference said. However, delegates rejected calls to replace it with tough minimum sentences.



E-Fit of suspect

Bogus tenant plunders antiques

A TENANT who has taken short-term leases on expensive homes and then stripped them of antiques and paintings worth nearly £1 million was at the centre of a nationwide hunt last night (Peter Birkett writes).

The man, who poses as an aristocrat and uses a string of aliases, was being sought by three police forces after striking five times in a month at addresses in London, Kent and Bristol. Details of his haul were featured on the BBC's *Crimewatch UK* last night.

"He is a very plausible criminal with no scruples whatsoever," Detective Con-



Ivy Cottage in Shoreham, where the contents were taken away in March

stable Bob Charters of Kent police said. "The thing that really amazes me is that no one thought of doing it before."

Posing as Luke du Pres, he first struck early in March when he rented two flats in the West End of London. Within days he had emptied both properties. A week later, using the name William Blythe-St John, he rented Ivy Cottage, a period house owned by the Irish peer Lord Dunsany, in the Kent village of Shoreham, and stripped it out.

On March 19, this time calling himself Oliver Thorn, he took a flat in Drayton Gardens, Chelsea, and fled with the

contents. His most recent letting was in the village of Puckchurch near Bristol where, under the name of David Davall, he loaded a van with furniture and household goods.

"He is smooth-talking and seems very genuine," said DC Charters. "On each occasion he has produced cash to pay the rent in advance and he has used a pre-paid mobile telephone that he has bought especially for the job."

"He has cashed in on the fact that it is generally accepted in the letting business that people taking properties on short-term lets are not normally vetted."

Laboratory cuts threaten future of sea research

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

TWO leading laboratories are to be closed by the Government, threatening research into fish farming, lobster ranching and the health of the Atlantic Ocean and North Sea.

The closures at Conwy in North Wales and Burnham-on-Crouch in Essex are part of cost-cutting measures at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods (MAFF). The cuts have also led to sailings by research ships being severely curtailed after one of the ministry's three England-based crews was paid off a few months ago.

Long-term scientific studies, including research into how radioactive particles from Sellafield nuclear plant travel through sediments and into the food chain, have either been shelved or are being run down.

The closures have yet to be announced but a senior government scientist said: "They will tell you there are no plans to close Burnham. That is true — they have no plan, just an absolute intention to do so. The same for Conwy. The decision has been taken but there has been no announcement."

The decision to close the two centres follows the creation of

the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), which has the new status of government agency. It has been ordered to be more commercial, winning orders from private customers.

But there is also speculation that the cost-cutting has been aggravated by a huge overspend at another MAFF facility in York. The ministry's Sand Hutton centre, the new headquarters of the Central Science Laboratory, should have cost £63 million, but critics say that expensive fittings and equipment have raised the figure to £126.8 million.

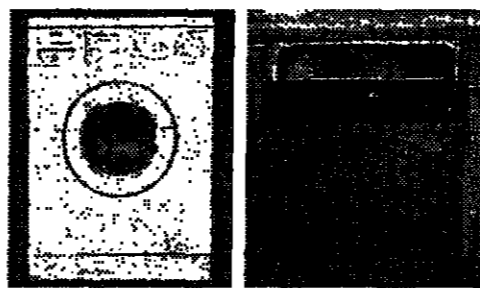
Senior scientists at Cefas suspect that the overspend may be behind the closures. But they are also convinced that the move to commercial status is also to blame. One said: "The accountants rather than the scientists are now in charge."

Conwy, which studies fish-farming and has developed pioneering techniques for lobster ranching and Burnham, which analyses sea water for pollutants, together employ about 100 staff. They may be invited to move to the Cefas laboratory at Lowestoft in Suffolk.

UP TO 40% OFF SELECTED WRIGHTON KITCHENS.*

Homebase Stores Open Bank Holiday Monday 25th May 8am - 7pm**

PLUS FREE CREDA WASHING MACHINE AND DISHWASHER***
worth £799 when you spend over £7,000.



OR
Free Creda Washing Machine or Dishwasher when you spend over £4,000.

OR
Half-price Creda Washing Machine or Dishwasher when you spend over £2,000.

PLUS FREE DELIVERY

We'll even plan your kitchen with you and deliver it free to your home.

PLUS BUY NOW AND PAY NOTHING UNTIL 1999

You don't have to pay anything for 7 months, not even a deposit.**

WRIGHTON KITCHENS ARE AVAILABLE AT SELECTED HOMEBASE STORES. **FOR SHOWROOM DETAILS TELEPHONE 0645 801 800.

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE

HOMEBASE

www.homebase.co.uk MONDAY-THURSDAY 8AM - 8PM • FRIDAY 8AM - 9PM • SATURDAY 8AM - 8PM • SUNDAY 10AM - 4PM†

†Sunday opening times may vary. Certain stores open 11am-5pm. Stores in Scotland open Sunday 10am-4pm. Please call 0645 801 800 during office hours for details of your nearest store. *The kitchens included in this promotion are: 40% off Ardenmore Premier Carcase and Lido Premier Carcase, 30% off Boston Premier Carcase and Ladbury Premier Carcase, 20% off Evesham Classic Carcase. The fully fitted ranges in this promotion are 40% off Stockholm Premier Carcase, 30% off Carnes Premier Carcase, 20% off Madrid Premier Carcase and includes installation. Fully fitted kitchens are subject to survey, additional work such as tiling, additional sockets, plastering, lighting and old kitchen disposal are not included. Full details available in-store. **In January 1999 pay in full or take credit. Written quotations on request from Homebase Limited, Reddington House, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 6DL. Homebase are licensed credit brokers. Loans subject to status and approval and are not available to anyone under 21 years. Example a kitchen costing £1,500. Pay in 36 monthly repayments of £57.62. Total amount repayable £2,074.32 (24.9% APR variable). ***Creda integrated Dishwasher model 4796/7 costs £500 when purchased separately (including fascia). Creda freestanding Washing Machine model 17076 costs £299 when purchased separately. Spend & Save Cards cannot be used on kitchen purchases. Products and offers may vary in NI, Ireland and Etc.

3 MONTHS FREE LINE RENTAL SAVING YOU £52.50



FREE CASIO PERSONAL ORGANISER

FREE LOCAL OPTION FOR 3 MONTHS

FREE ERICSSON GA628 DIGITAL PHONE

FREE 20 MINUTES OF CALLS PER MONTH

FREE PORTABLE HANDS-FREE KIT

FREE LEATHER CARRY CASE

FREE NEXT DAY DELIVERY

Monthly Line Rental and 3 months FREE LOCAL OPTION (includes 20 minutes of calls per month) worth up to £52.50. Includes: Ericsson GA628 Digital Phone, 20 minutes of calls per month, Portable Hands-Free Kit, Leather Carry Case, Next Day Delivery. Offer ends 31st May 1998. Peak rate calls. 24-hour helpline. 24-hour delivery. 24-hour support. 24-hour peace of mind guarantee.

Ref: TV2005 ERICSSON GA628 • 80 hour battery • 3.5 hours talk time • Compact and lightweight

0800 00 00 77 DIAL A PHONE

Offer ends 31st May 1998. Peak rate calls. 24-hour helpline. 24-hour delivery. 24-hour support. 24-hour peace of mind guarantee.

لحذا من الاصل

Male model poses sex bias question

US writer wins £30,000 book prize

By DAMIAN WHITWORTH

THE £30,000 Orange Prize for women's fiction was won last night by the American-born writer Carol Shields for her novel *Larry's Party*. The book is the third winner of one of the literary world's biggest prizes.

Shields's sixth novel traces a modern man's life from his honeymoon in England where he discovers a passion for music, Erica Wagner, the Literary Editor of *The Times* and one of the judges, praised the book in her review for its warmth and understanding. Shields's *The Stone Diaries*, published in 1993, won the Pulitzer Prize and was shortlisted for the Booker.

The Orange Prize is awarded to the best novel of the year written in English by a woman of any nationality. The other shortlisted candidates were: Kirsten Bakis for *Lives of the Monster Dogs*; Pauline Melville for *The Ventriloquist's Tale*; Ann Patchett for *The Magician's Assistant*; Deirdre Furell for *Love Like Hate Adore*; Anita Shreve for *The Weight of Water*.

There is some element of voyeurism in art classes, tribunal heard. Richard Duce reports

GEORGE BOND is a balding grandfather and angry. Why on earth, a tribunal was asked yesterday, should art students have to sketch young female models when they could be studying him?

Mr Bond's distress at allegedly losing out to women in the business of nude modelling has led him to launch a case of sexual discrimination against Northampton College.

The alleged bias towards women by the college was such that Mr Bond, 54, a former ambulance man and bit-part hard man in *EastEnders*, who earns between £4 and £5 an hour as a nude model, had worked only 68 hours out of a possible 1,260 during the past eight years.

Mr Bond told the tribunal in Bedford that one tutor at the college said that women were curvier and thus easier to draw after he complained.

Northampton College was the only institution that had treated him unfairly during a career spanning some 3,000 hours of modelling, he said. The college, which runs A-level and adult art courses, denies discrimination.

Mr Bond, who is representing himself, said tutors should be prepared to pick models of either sex. He had constantly rung two tutors for work as a model but was rarely used. "You can use a male or female for any application apart from one or two occasions when particular aspects of a male body or particular aspects of a female body are needed."

"I've lost money, although money is not the main issue at the moment. Discrimination is the main issue, and it has caused me serious headaches. I have lost three quarters of a stone since this year and I am a very fit, fanatical person."

John Lockett, an art tutor at Northampton College, had allegedly made an abusive phone call to him in April. "He called me a bastard. He said I was always moaning, complaining about the cold and going to the toilet. He said no-



George Bond modelling for an art class at Northampton College. He denied that he could not hold poses for long or that he fidgeted and caused problems for students

body liked me and that included tutors. He said after this nobody would use me again." After giving an account of his acting and modelling career Mr Bond said: "Models prostitute their body. They take their clothes off in front of other people. They stand naked in front of other people and while they're standing there, people look at them. It is a very strange job to do."

He denied suggestions that he was unable to hold poses for long periods, or that he fidgeted and caused problems for students. He also suggested that there was an element of voyeurism among some adult students. "I think some of these people just use these evening classes as a cheap way of looking at models..."

Mr Bond said he always carried his own fan heater to schools or village halls, where nude modelling could be uncomfortable. "Normally I will go to the toilet only once in a two-hour period. I have on occasions, when it has been very cold, been twice."

After spending 2½ hours giving evidence, he asked the tribunal for a "comfort break". The hearing was adjourned to June 5.



The telecoms supplier who claims to understand every kind of business.

Business is so varied, and organisations so different, no telecoms supplier can be familiar with them all.

That's why, at Racal Telecom, we focus on a realistic number of sectors, and give customers the very best solution from our range of voice and data services.

We offer dedicated sector teams in transport,

Government, retail, banking, insurance and finance, and manufacturing. Each one has extensive experience and fully appreciates how telecoms can drive those businesses.

For corporate telecoms you can believe in, call our response line on 08700 007 007 or visit our Web site.

Racal Telecom Phoenix House, Station Hill, Reading, Berkshire RG1 1NB. www.racaltelecom.com



Forgotten girl, 2, left locked in nursery

By A CORRESPONDENT

AN INQUIRY was under way last night after a girl of two was left locked in a nursery after staff had gone home. Antonia Young was found only when her father, Gary Lee, kicked down the front door and found her sobbing in a corner.

The toddler had triggered off the burglar alarm but although police arrived earlier to check the premises, they failed to spot her. Greater Manchester Police are investigating the incident and are expected to liaise with Tameside social services.

Mr Lee, 34, of Fallsworth, near Oldham, said: "I was frantically looking through the windows and I spotted Antonia at the last one I checked. I was so angry I just kicked the door in."

Antonia's mother, Angela Young, had arrived to pick up the youngster at the privately owned Kids Zone in Droylsden only to find the nursery deserted. She had then rung Mr Lee. She said only she and Mr Lee were allowed to collect Antonia.

Carol Melia, director of the nursery, refused to comment.

Internet is blamed for garden mortar blast

By STEPHEN FARRELL

A PENSIONER who narrowly escaped being killed by a shell that exploded in his garden may have been the random target of teenagers using a home-made mortar.

Fred Simmer, 67, was sitting on his patio at Chatham, Kent, when the bomb exploded in a cloud of white smoke, leaving a 2ft scorch mark on his lawn and sending shrapnel through his car-port roof and fence.

Army bomb disposal experts found a three to four-inch metal cylinder, with 15g of gunpowder still inside the damaged casing. This prompted fears that a larger amount of gunpowder might have been used to fire the shell from a mortar tube up to 100 yards away, made by youths from instructions widely available on the Internet.

Police yesterday searched woodland, school playing fields and a sports club near the house where the missile landed on Sunday afternoon. Mr Simmer's wife, Isla, said: "I was terrified. I was expecting my daughter to arrive - 20 minutes later, and we would all have been sitting out there."

Dignified return for the man with a past

THE remains of a man who died 4,000 years ago were brought home to North Wales in a funeral hearse yesterday.

The bones have been on display in Cardiff since they were unearthed by workmen digging a trench at Brymbo, near Wrexham, forty years ago. Wrexham County Borough Council has now created a home in its own museum to celebrate one of the area's most important archaeological finds.

Bronze-Age man plus a flint scraper and a small pot, said: "We wanted him to have a dignified last journey to bring him home."

The hearse stopped off at Brymbo Junior School, where pupils are studying the Bronze Age. Brymbo Man is thought to have been 5ft 7in, aged 35-40, and right-handed. Stephen Grenier, Wrexham's county archaeologist, said: "We do not have a complete skeleton but Brymbo Man's skull is partially intact. We shall be examining whether it will be possible to model an

Students' work of art was cheap forgery

Grant for 'Going Places' is still in bank, reports Damian Whitworth

THE students who said they had blown a £1,100 grant on a Spanish holiday in the name of art yesterday produced their masterpiece — and claimed that it had all been a hoax.

Photographs of them frolicking on the Costa del Sol had actually been taken at Scarborough, they said, and the grant was sitting in a bank waiting to be repaid to the donors.

The elaborate forgery, which included staging their return at an airport after a week spent hiding from their peers at home and acquiring a tan on sunbeds, was designed to "push back the boundaries of art".

The 13 fine-art students at Leeds University denied suggestions yesterday that they would be paying back the grant from their own pockets because their work of art, called *Going Places*, had re-

sulted in opprobrium being heaped upon them. "The trip didn't happen, it was a simulation," said Matthew Dunning, 22. "We didn't want to put on a conventional show. We have had a lot of discussions this year about what is art and is art not leisure."

"This was just a grand theatrical illusion. We wanted it to be a talking point about what is art. We hoped it would get press attention in a small way in the *Leeds Student* newspaper."

They said that they had been planning to reveal the hoax in the next edition of the student newspaper, in two weeks, but decided to confess early when the issue became "very hot".

The hoax appeared to be confirmed by angry officials at Leeds-Bradford Airport, who said that they had been duped



The Leeds University students returned yesterday to Scarborough, which played the part of the Costa del Sol in their elaborate hoax

into helping the students to deceive university tutors and art critics.

The critics and tutors invited to the degree show were first shown into a room containing a bowl of sangria with flamenco music playing in the background. They were then taken by bus to the airport to see the students emerging, looking tanned, from the arrivals lounge.

Philip Firth, head of marketing, said last night that the airport had been happy to help what it had been told was part of a degree-show film, and had allowed the group to stand in a public part of the airport.

"We put a fake flight-number on our video screens to help them and they stood by the arrivals area with suitcases," Mr Firth said.

"I feel annoyed and very disappointed, to put it mildly. Every time a Leeds University group come to us with a

request we are going to have to question every single motive."

The students' union, which awarded most of the grant, was still furious last night. "At the moment we have no proof and no documentation to support the claim that we will be getting our money back. Quite frankly, we'll believe it when we see it," a spokeswoman said.

"Even if what they have done is art, it is a very narrow view of what is art. We gave

them the money to stage an exhibition that was supposed to consist of performance, video, painting, sculpture and photography."

She added that future awards from the union and other organisations were in doubt. "Even if it was all a hoax and the cash is returned, we are concerned about the effect the episode has had on the reputation of our students. A lot of them apply to local business people for spon-

sorship. One of them has already said he is poisoned against helping students in the future. It seems a real shame that Leeds University students might lose out in the long term because of this stunt."

The students said they would apologise when they handed the money back, but were unrepentant. "My only regret is that my stomach looked a bit flabby on the photos," Simon Clark, one of the hoaxers, said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

GP cleared of faking race attack

A doctor was cleared of faking a racist attack on his nursing home to try to claim £1 million in insurance. Mohammed Sabbuta, 54, of Energy, Caerphilly, denied attempted arson at the Aneurin Nursing Home, where racist graffiti was sprayed on walls and a timer device was linked to an electric fire on petrol-soaked clothes.

The GP said: "I hate fires — I've seen too many of the injuries they can cause."

Prisoner dies

Raymond Hobson, 48, charged with murdering his wife, was found hanged at Horfield Prison despite being on a suicide watch. Lynne Hobson, 47, was stabbed at her home in Weston-super-Mare last week.

Murder charge

David Harker, 23, of Darlington, is to appear before magistrates today charged with the murder of a woman whose remains were found in a bin bag in a back garden in the town. Tests are continuing to establish her identity.

Driver jailed

A tanker driver was jailed for two years by Bristol Crown Court for causing a crash on the M5 in which three people died. Anthony Harman, 47, of Winchcombe, Gloucestershire, admitted causing death by dangerous driving.

Kosovans barred

Forty-three Kosovans have been returned to Italy, where they had arrived from Amman, after failing to win entry to Britain. Eleven are having applications considered as they have relatives in Britain; and two have absconded.

Hedgehog cruelty

A student who roasted a hedgehog in a microwave oven was jailed for 90 days by magistrates at Henley, Oxfordshire. Lee Burden, 18, admitted cruelty with intent to cause suffering in a prosecution brought by the RSPCA.

New at the Tate: a pile of sweets and a boat wreck

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

THE family likeness may not be obvious when Felix Gonzales-Torres' portrait of his father goes on display at the Tate Gallery Liverpool. For the work of art is a pile of sweets, weighing the same as his father.

Visitors to the gallery, which re-opens to the public on Saturday after a one-year refurbishment, will pick their way around a seemingly half-submerged boat surrounded by flotsam.

They will also be invited to take a sweet as they walk through a glass-head canopy, another project by Gonzales-Torres. "His work breaks the taboo of prohibiting physical

contact with an artwork," says the exhibition guide.

Only a bold few ventured to pick up a sweet yesterday when the gallery gave art experts a preview of the £7 million refurbishment.

The Tate's northern branch opened in 1988 to widespread scepticism. Since then, works from the National Collection of Modern Art and temporary exhibitions have attracted 600,000 visitors a year to the 19th-century warehouse.

Much of the space remained undeveloped because of a lack of funds, hampering the gallery's ambition to display more of its permanent collection. Work began in November 1996 to

convert the top floor and the south section of the building into galleries. The ground floor has been redeveloped with a shop and café and a glass frontage that allows a view of its treasures. Picasso, Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Walter Sickert and L.S. Lowry are among the well-known names. Newly commissioned pieces include work by Christine Borland, Nathan Coley, Mark Dion and Narelle Jubelin.

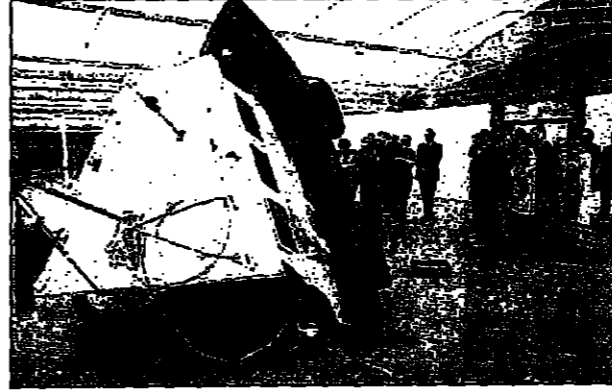
Lewis Biggs, Director of Tate Gallery Liverpool, was confident of attracting 800,000 visitors in the coming year with the figure rising to one million after the millennium. The Heritage Lottery Fund gave £3.8 mil-

lion towards the cost of the refurbishment. The five Merseyside boroughs contributed £1.5 million from the European Regional Development Fund.

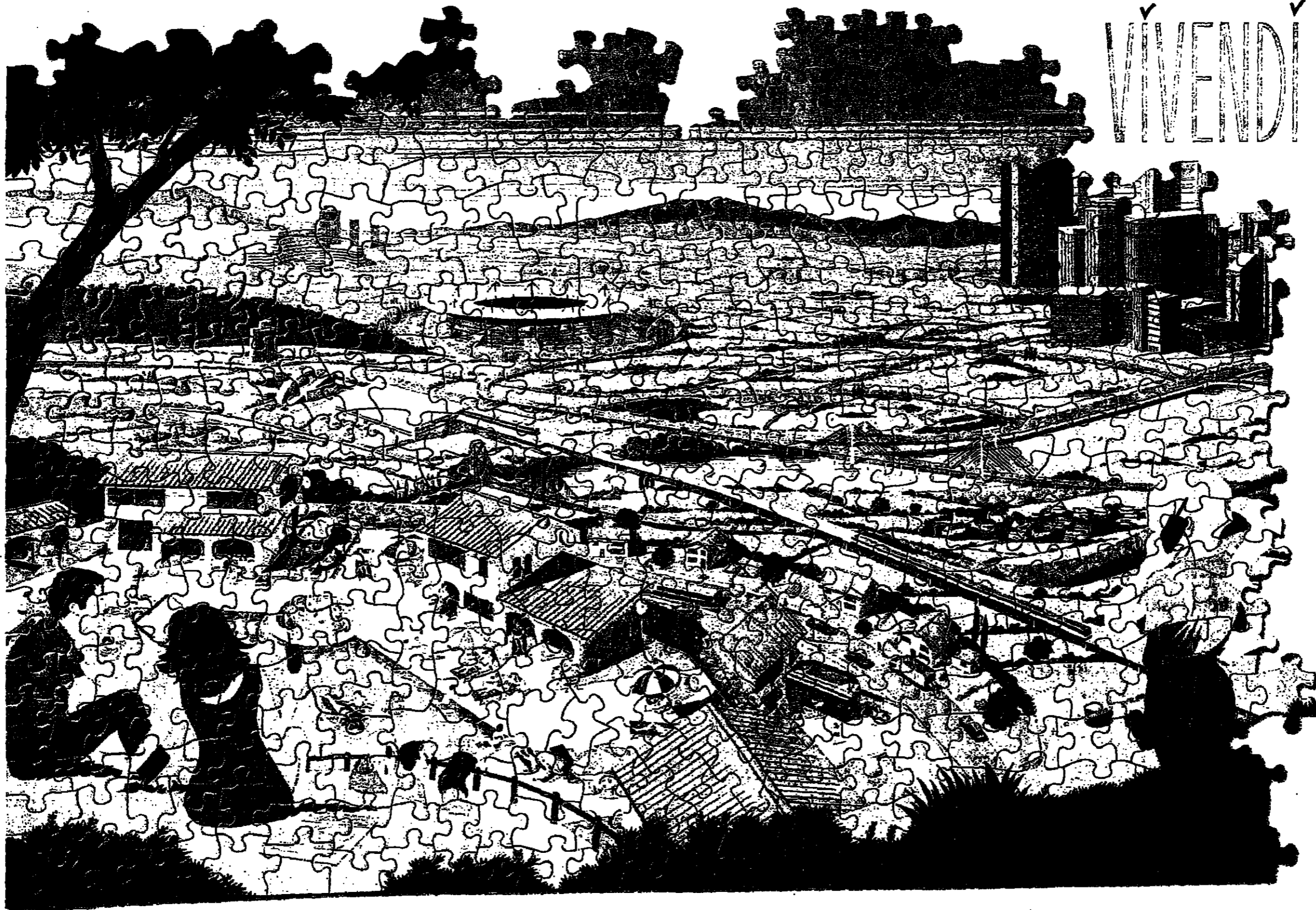
The reopening will see the launch of a Cubism exhibition and artranspennine98, an exhibition of contemporary art shown in 30 venues from Liverpool to Hull.

The boat wreck, a work called *SOS* by Mark Dion, dominates the new top-floor gallery. The boat, flying a ragged ensign, is an ironic comment on Liverpool's maritime industry that once prospered in Albert Dock, where the Tate has its home.

Bankside maverick, page 37



But is it art? *SOS* at the Tate Gallery Liverpool



VIVENDI. COMMITTED TO MEETING YOUR LIFE'S EVER-CHANGING NEEDS.

Vivendi is the new name for Compagnie Générale des Eaux. Its role has grown from simply providing people with purer water, to providing energy, transport systems, waste management, construction and property, communications and telecommunications. In other words, simply to improve your everyday life, today and tomorrow.

Churchill family give go-ahead for war film

THE family of Sir Winston Churchill has for the first time allowed a film company to acquire the screen rights to his diaries, speeches and letters from the most crucial war years. They will be used in an ambitious, British-made movie about the great statesman.

Well-known stars and unknown actors are being considered for the lead role. The budget is believed to be about £6 million, which is large by British standards.

The film will be made by Samuelson Productions, which made *Wilde*, starring Stephen Fry as Oscar Wilde. Speaking at the Cannes Film Festival, the brothers Marc and Peter Samuelson said that they felt compelled to make the Churchill film. "It is difficult to think of someone else who has made a larger impact, rescuing an entire people," Marc said. Peter recalled how he was a boy when his father took him to Churchill's funeral: "He told me, 'it's the end of an era'. That made a great impression on me. We are acutely aware that no Churchill, no England, no Samuelsons."

The film company is based in London and Los Angeles. *Wilde* has been so successful that it took £2 million in the British box office alone. The company's repertoire includes a political thriller, *Arlington Road*, starring Jeff Bridges, Tim Robbins and Joan



Britain's wartime leader is the big name in a revival of films on the Second World War. *Dalya Alberge reports from the Cannes Film Festival*



Churchill: film will focus on home front

Cusack, which has just finished shooting in Houston and Washington.

The untitled Churchill project will be made by the team that made *Wilde*: the director Brian Mitchell, whose work also includes *Another Country*, *Inspector Morse* and a 1970s television drama about Churchill's mother, *Jennie*.

The Churchill family — including Churchill's daughter, Lady Soames, and grandson, Winston Churchill — do

not have a right of script approval but they are consultants to the project.

"We are soliciting their input," Marc Samuelson said. It is believed that a four-figure up-front payment will be made to them by the film-makers. Controversy lingers over whether the family received any of the £13 million lottery grant for Churchill's papers.

The film's adviser is one of Britain's most eminent military historians: Sir Michael Howard, co-founder of the International Institute of Strategic Studies, Professor Emeritus at Oxford and Yale and the author of 11 books on military history.

Marc Samuelson spoke of their determination to get the slightest details about the period just right, conveying exactly what life was like in the war rooms, for example, or life during the Blitz.

The drama will centre on Churchill's "finest hour", 1939 to 1941. Marc Samuelson said, describing the movie as "a political and domestic drama centring on events in London

during those momentous days". He added: "This is not a battlefield movie. There is no shooting. We will show the war at home, the unbelievable heroism of people all over Britain and the experience of the Blitz, trying to understand the man as well as his achievements."

"The younger generation — people under 40 — do not have a sense of him as a person. It is time to remind people how fragile and precious freedom is and how it was nearly lost for ever."

Previous screen dramas about Churchill's career — such as *Young Winston*, which starred Simon Ward, or *The Wilderness Years* with Robert Hardy — covered different periods of his life.

Nick Marston, who represents the Churchill family through the Curtis Brown literary agency in London and worked closely with the Samuelsons in putting together the deal, said: "The family have given it their blessing. There has been a lot of interest in movies about Churchill, but they have always rejected approaches. They were impressed with the Samuelsons' track-record, particularly over *Wilde*."

The documents were made available for Martin Gilbert's biography of Churchill, but this is the first time that film-makers have been given access.



Stars of the wartime film *The Land Girls*. left to right: Anna Friel, Catherine McCormack and Rachel Weisz

Industry marches into battle

BY DALYA ALBERGE

FILM-MAKERS are reshooting the *Second World War*. Some 40 movies set during the conflict are under way, some of them to be released in Cannes this week.

The Land Girls, about three girls working on a Dorset farm when a German Messerschmitt crashes near by, opens in Britain in Sep-

tember. Ruth Jackson, executive producer, said that work had begun three or four years ago: "At that time, we had no idea of all these films. It is a curious coincidence that often happens in the film business."

The film has been directed by David Leland and produced by Simon Relph, who said there was a "fantastic amount of interest" in the era. Much, he believed, came from

a new generation of young people who wanted to know about a conflict their grandparents had lived through.

Ready to be screened later this year is Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan*, starring Tom Hanks, set in France during the D-Day invasion. Mr Relph said that a Spielberg project sent film-makers in search of similar themes. Producers will ask: "What war stories have we got in the drawer?"

Timing had much to do with the appeal of the *Second World War*, compared with more recent conflicts, said Michael Riley, who is producing *Sole Survivor* about a crashed bomber for Sterling Pictures. The war was "better and sexier than the others... The fact that it was long ago yet still in recent history. It is not Napoleonic. But it's not

as gory as if it happened yesterday."

Universal Pictures has two war movies on the way, starring Nicholas Cage and Michael Douglas. A British company, Working Title, is to adapt Louis de Bernieres's novel *Captain Corcoran's Mandolin*, set on the occupied island of Cephalonia.

The rights to Eric Newby's 1971 book about his experiences as an escaped prisoner, *Love and War in the Apennines*, have been acquired by First City Features. Yesterday Mr Newby, 78, said various previous attempts at scripts had failed. The difficulty seemed to lie partly in the love interest with a local girl. While in reality their contact was brief, film-makers had wanted her to reappear "popping up and down in the most improbable places, like a rabbit out of a hole."

Wild life movie on a karma chameleon

THE pop singer Boy George promised yesterday that the film of his life would be every bit as wild as the real thing. "There'll be lots of sex and lots of drugs. Everyone gets their kit off happily."

George was in Cannes to promote *Take It Like A Man*, the story of a young man's search for his identity. No one has yet been found to play the part of the flamboyant singer, who flaunts his homosexuality and has talked freely about his descent into heroin addiction. The actor will be dubbed with George's voice when singing.

George left home at 15 with clothes stuffed into a plastic

bag and found himself drawn to the club scene. He was an avid fan of David Bowie and the Sex Pistols and by 1981 had formed his own group, Culture Club. The film, with a budget of less than £5 million, will feature the group's hits, such as *Karma Chameleon*, and new songs. The backers include BBC Films. "It's about sex, growing up in a suburban family, growing rich quickly and the pitfalls of fame," George said. He was confident that Bowie would allow him to use his music. "He loves me. My book is very complimentary to Bowie. The only thing I passed at school was A-level Bowie."

Why pay more?

Top spec PCs at new low prices...

...so act now! These advanced Advent PCs have been reduced in price to bring you even better value for the latest technology.

1 YEAR'S FREE ON-SITE SERVICE

FUTURE PROOF

See how much you get for your money. Each feature the advanced Pentium™II processor, massive memory and more than enough hard disk capacity to run the latest software. Compare the specification and

INSTALLATION & START-UP

multimedia features with other machines and discover how much more Advent offers for the price. You can order Advent direct or try before you buy at any PC World.

Advent 400MHz

Intel Pentium™ II Processor

- 64Mb SDRAM (New fast 100MHz)
- 512k Cache • 8.6Gb UDMA HDD
- 32 x Panasonic CD-ROM • 15" Digital Monitor
- Intel 440BX Chipset with 100MHz Bus
- 50W Speakers
- 4Mb 3D ACP ATI Rage Pro Graphics
- 56Kbps Modem with Speakerphone Capability
- MS Windows 95 plus Lotus SmartSuite, Incoming 3D, Compton's Encyclopedia and more

FREE 12 MONTHS ON-SITE SERVICE
MODEL: 8590.
WAS INC. VAT £1679.08.
12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION!

£1299 EX. VAT
£1526.33 INC. VAT
SAVE OVER £150

Advent 333MHz

Intel Pentium™ II Processor

- 64Mb SDRAM • 512k Cache Memory
- 8.6Gb UDMA HDD • Intel 440LX Chipset
- 32 x Panasonic CD-ROM
- 15" Digital Monitor
- 50W Speakers
- 4Mb 3D ACP ATI Rage Pro Graphics
- 56Kbps Modem with Speakerphone Capability
- MS Windows 95 plus Lotus SmartSuite, Incoming 3D, Compton's Encyclopedia and more

FREE 12 MONTHS ON-SITE SERVICE
MODEL: 8510.
WAS INC. VAT £1408.83.
9 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION!

£1099 EX. VAT
£1291.33 INC. VAT
SAVE OVER £100

Advent 266MHz

Intel Pentium™ II Processor

- 64Mb SDRAM • 512k Cache Memory
- 8.6Gb UDMA HDD • Intel 440LX Chipset
- 32 x Panasonic CD-ROM • 15" Digital Monitor
- 50W Speakers
- 4Mb 3D ACP ATI Rage Pro Graphics
- 56Kbps Modem with Speakerphone Capability
- MS Windows 95 plus Lotus SmartSuite, Incoming 3D, Compton's Encyclopedia and more

FREE 12 MONTHS ON-SITE SERVICE
MODEL: 8350.
WAS INC. VAT £1498.83 £1291.33 £1173.83.
9 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION!

£899 EX. VAT
£1056.33 INC. VAT
SAVE OVER £350

TO ORDER DIRECT CALL FREEPHONE 0500 504030

OR VISIT YOUR NEAREST STORE

- | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| • ALDERSHOTT | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM |
| • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM |
| • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM |
| • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM | • BIRMINGHAM |
- LONDON AREA
- BARBICAN, TEESIDE, HARLOW & SELLY OAK NOW OPEN

PC WORLD

THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

EVEREST SUMMER SALE

30% OFF

Call Free 0800 010123
Please Quote Ref: MAY860

Everest FIT THE BEST

1,500 his

Vivendi is part of...

to improve...

annual...

More...

General...

of the Ger...

Through...

Onyx serv...

commers...

including...

Through...

companies...

and steam...

In the...

almost 17%...

better the...

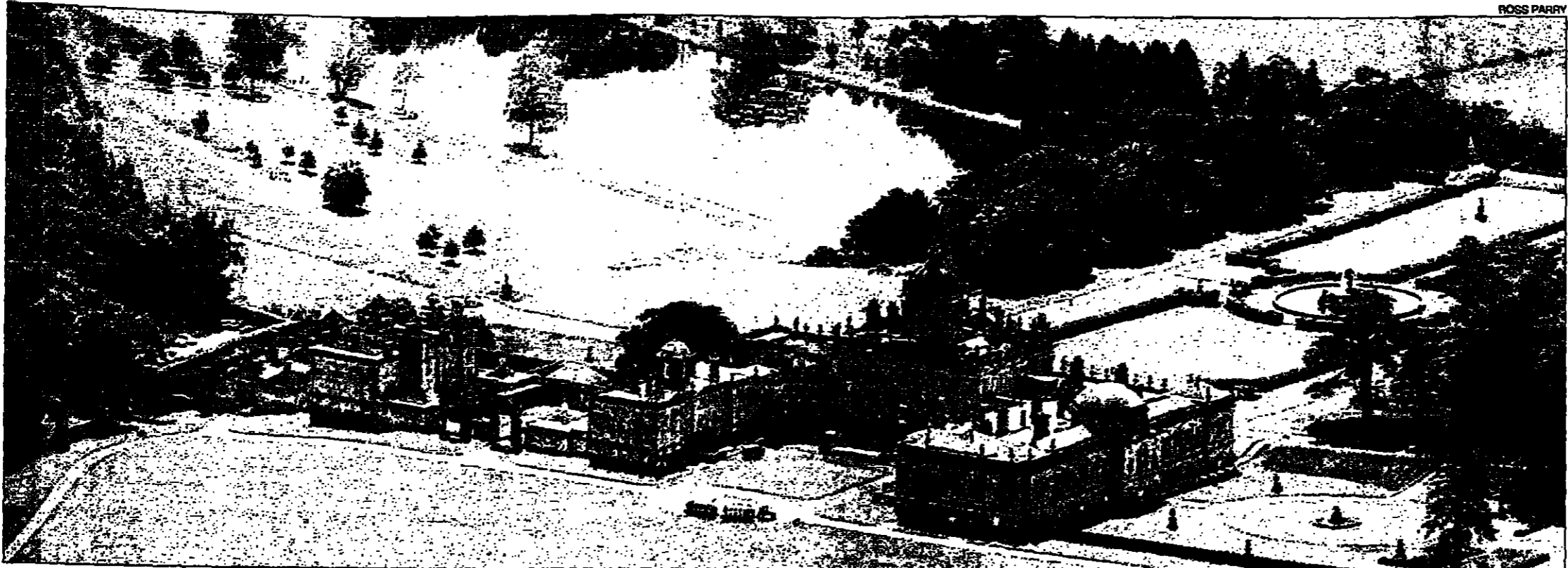
than 200 million...

Vivendi is active...

work sector...

لقدنا من الاصل

1,500 historic buildings on danger list



Castle Howard in North Yorkshire is one of many historic houses on the register. Its Grade I listed mausoleum, built in the 18th century by Hawksmoor, needs repairs costing up to £2 million

Marcus Binney on English Heritage's £5m plan to save houses going to rack and ruin

THE first nationwide register of listed buildings in need of urgent repair includes parts of Castle Howard, the North Yorkshire estate used as the location for *Brideshead Revisited*, and Saltwood, the medieval castle in Kent owned by Alan Clark, the Tory MP.

The nine volumes compiled by English Heritage catalogue 1,500 Grade I and Grade II listed buildings deemed to be at risk. The list reveals that one quarter of the buildings mentioned are in immediate danger of rapid deterioration, and that there are no plans for their rescue.

Sir Jocelyn Stevens, chairman of English Heritage, said that buildings in ruins were a wasted national asset. "The challenge is immense. The register reveals that 1,500, or about 4 per cent, of the most important buildings and scheduled ancient monuments in England are at risk."

He said that the register was backed by a £5 million package for repairs to endangered buildings. A sum of £300,000 would be immediately available for emergency repairs. "Do-

ing nothing is no longer an option," Sir Jocelyn said.

English Heritage was also prepared to underwrite a significant part of the cost incurred by local authorities in serving Urgent Works Notices, and giving grants towards purchase, whether compulsory or by agreement. Grants would also go towards funding local authority conservation officers, with an offer of 50 per cent of the cost of each post

over three years. Other buildings pinpointed include Astley Castle, a moated medieval manor house in Warwickshire; Ditherington Flax Mill at Shrewsbury in Shropshire, the first iron-framed building in the world; Dalton Pumping Station, a high Victorian edifice near Durham; Paston Great Barn in Bacton, Norfolk, one of the finest barns in the country; the magnificent conservatories at Wentworth Castle, South

Yorkshire; and Wellington Arch at Hyde Park Corner, London. The mausoleum at Castle Howard, which featured in the 1981 Granada TV series, is a Grade I listed building designed by Hawksmoor. It needs repairs costing an estimated £2 million. A Medici stone vase and two pyramids in the grounds are also deteriorating.

The list also includes the Dome cinema in Worthing, the oldest

partly occupied by the estate offices.

The register, already dubbed the "name and shame" list, in fact mentions no actual names of owners, specifying only local authority (17 per cent of the total), government, health authority, religious organisation, private or company ownership.

Other fine country houses included in the register are Melton Constable in Norfolk, used in the film *The Go Between*; Orchardleigh in Somerset, victim of an over-ambitious golf course scheme that folded; 17th-century Chantmerle Manor in Dorset; and Doddington Hall in Cheshire, by the architect Samuel Wyatt.

According to English Heritage, some 80 per cent of all repairs orders served between 1984 and 1990 resulted in the owner either repairing or selling the property.

Regional volumes of the EH Buildings at Risk register are available from EH Customer Services Department on 0171-973 3434 at £5 each, including postage, or libraries.

Farmhouse falling over cliff 'must have new windows'

BY A CORRESPONDENT

THE owner of a Grade II listed farmhouse faces having to restore its original windows, even though it is likely to topple into the sea in the next year.

Anthony Oliver has lost his High Court appeal against a planning committee's ruling. At a public inquiry a planning inspector had agreed that it was a case of "when — not whether" the house would fall over a cliff 25 yards away.

The judge at Monday's High Court hearing said: "The cliff edge is now very near, so it would be hard for the authority to serve any enforcement notice." Mr Oliver said after the hearing: "As the cliff face gets nearer, the rate of erosion gets faster. It may not last the winter."

As well as the loss of his home, where he lives with his wife, Ruth, and their two children, Mr Oliver faces heavy legal costs from his court battle.

He bought the farmhouse at Ravenscar, near Scarborough, in 1991, when the cliff edge seemed a safe distance away, and replaced the horizontal sash windows in 1994. His retrospective planning application for the new windows and a dormer was refused by the North York Moors National Park Committee in 1995. The alterations were said to affect the building's character and fabric.

Deputy High Court Judge Malcolm Spence, QC, said that the inspector's decision at the subsequent inquiry could not be overturned because he had not overlooked any evidence. It is up to the national park committee, which meets next month, to decide whether to have the windows restored.



At risk: Paston Great Barn in Bacton, Norfolk, left; Melton Constable Hall, near Holt in Norfolk; and the Dome cinema in Worthing, West Sussex



World leader in Environmental Services and one of the major European leaders in Communication and Construction, Vivendi employs 220,000 people in 90 countries. Its turnover is close to

\$35bn and its net income is expected to exceed \$1.1bn in 1998. Vivendi's market capitalisation is close to \$30bn (mid 1998). Vivendi is part of the DJ Euro Stoxx 50.

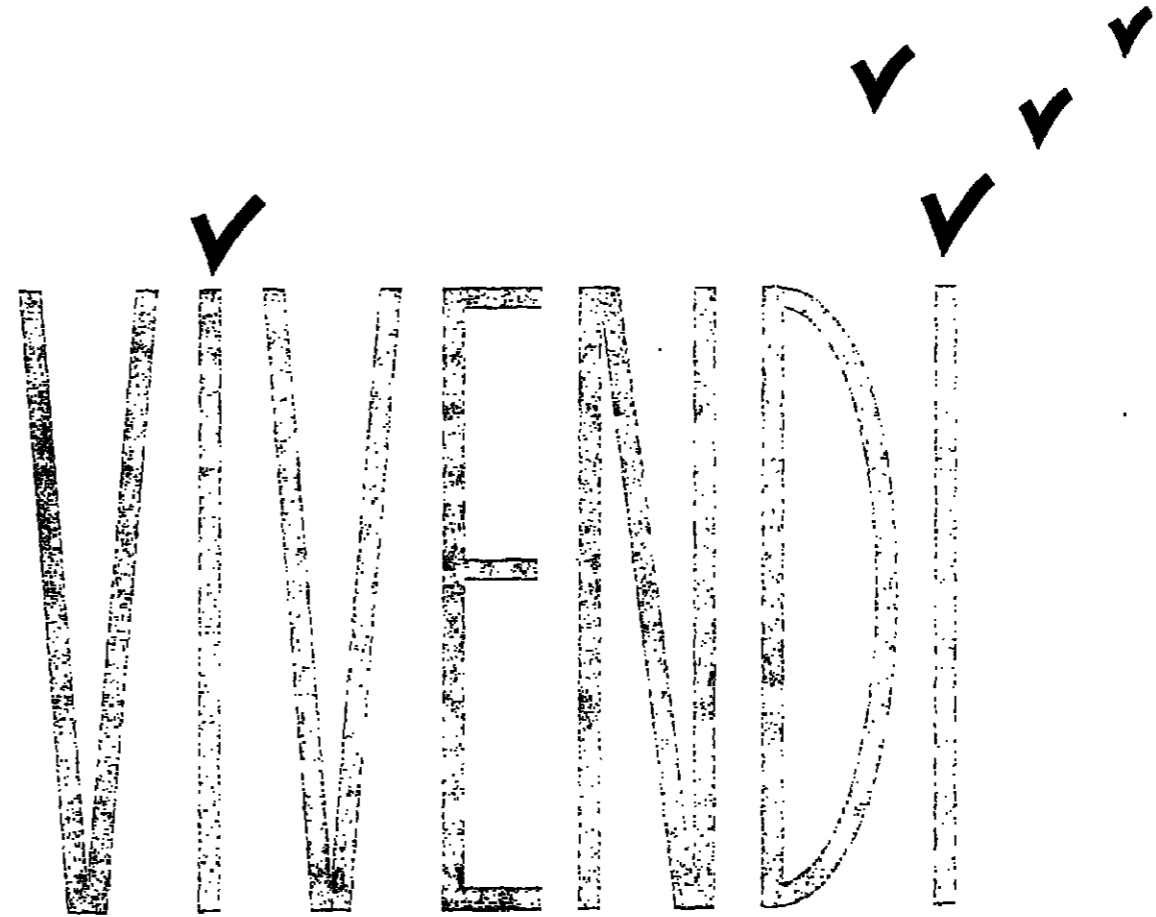
In the United Kingdom too, Vivendi's activities are every day helping to improve the quality of life for millions of people and the company has annual sales here of £2bn.

More than 3.3 million Britons benefit from the water facilities of General Utilities, a Vivendi subsidiary. The know-how and professionalism of the General Utilities teams are recognised by all their customers.

Through Onyx, Vivendi is the UK market leader in Waste Management. Onyx serves 7 million inhabitants and more than 23,000 customers in the commercial and industrial sectors. It has a presence in 37 local authorities, including the City of Westminster and the City of Birmingham.

Through ETS, Vivendi provides services to a large number of British companies in facility management and co-generation (combined electricity and steam production).

In the field of transport, the Vivendi subsidiary Connex operates almost 17% of the British railway network and each day satisfies better and better the demands of passengers through their services, who make more than 200 million journeys with us each year. Through SGE and Norwest Holst, Vivendi is active in all areas of construction, from the public buildings and work sector to electricity works, to say nothing of road works.



COMMITTED TO MEETING YOUR LIFE'S EVER-CHANGING NEEDS.

Better-off should have child benefit taxed, says Field

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

FRANK FIELD set out the case yesterday for taxing child benefit but said that the state pension should not be means-tested in future Parliaments.

The Minister for Welfare reform mounted a passionate defence of universal benefits but argued that the poor should get more help than the rich.

Delivering the Politeia Lecture in London, Mr Field signalled a rethink in the way that benefits should be provided in what he described as the "modern case for universality". He said that it was vital to ensure that the middle classes continued to contribute to social security by retaining some benefit payment for all. But, in what was seen as an attempt to boost his chance of succeeding Harriet Harman as Social Security Secretary, he raised the prospect of a new benefit structure. Although the case for universality re-

mained, something had to be done to redress growing income inequality, he said.

In some cases people could get services rather than money or be helped through a mix of public and private provision. In other areas benefits could be taxed. But he gave warning that if the benefit system was means-tested, so that only the poorest groups were helped, the middle classes would have no incentive to pay taxes.

"We don't all have to receive the same benefits, or the same services. It may be that to keep everyone in the state system we need to be more flexible in our approach, given the rise in expectations among the better-off," he said.

"We might have to offer an à la carte rather than fixed-price menu in order to make sure we all eat in the same restaurant," he added.

He added: "It is simple human nature to want some-

thing for our money. Altruism is too delicate a thread on which to hang a welfare system."

Mr Field devoted much of his speech, which had been cleared by Downing Street policy advisers, to conceding that child benefit, one of the few true universal benefits, should be taxed. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, has already signalled that he is considering taxing the benefit for wealthier groups in the next Budget, but Tony Blair has been more cautious.

Yesterday Mr Field argued that many people thought it was absurd that wealthy couples should still qualify for child benefit. "One journalist joked that her weekly child benefit went on a bottle of Sainsbury's champagne — hardly the priority for public spending, surely?"

He said that childless couples relied on other people's



children to pay for their pensions, so they should also be prepared to subsidise child benefit. There was therefore a strong case for universal provision but there was no reason why the lawyer and the stockbroker should not have their benefit taxed.

"The choice may not be between a pure universal child

benefit or one which is restricted to the poor — we might want child benefit for all, but child benefit which is worth more to those lower down the income scale. Dare I say it a third way. This is the case for making child benefit more generous but then taxing it."

Mr Field devoted a large section of his speech to back-

ing a universal state pension. There had been speculation that a future Labour government might decide to means-test pensions, but the minister said that it was vital to retain the basic state pension for all. He argued, however, that the Government should ensure that everyone took up a second pension.

Hague's euro policy leaves him sidelined

WILLIAM HAGUE is offering his party clear-cut leadership on Europe, but, unfortunately for the Tories, it is up a political cul-de-sac. His speech last night at INSEAD Business School further detached his party from the main political and business debate about Europe. Mr Hague has taken a one-way bet on the failure of monetary union, but in politics one-way bets are seldom wise.

He presented a fully worked out alternative European vision. The postwar generation who rebuilt Europe and fought the Cold War had succeeded, but now it is the turn of a younger generation with a different view. The fifty-year-old solution designed to heal a war-torn Continent should no longer dictate what happens. He differentiated Britain from the rest of Europe: "We have never been as nervous of national feeling as our continental neighbours and, as a result, I believe we have never really understood, let alone shared, the fears and ambitions of European federalism." He was eloquent about nations being the essential link in democratic accountability, in contrast to Michael Heseltine's weekend comment: "We will matter tomorrow in direct proportion to the extent that we matter in Europe. Europe is an opportunity, not a threat."

Mr Hague had some strong points. He is right about the urgent need to remove obstacles to enlargement to the east and about the high cost of employing people in Europe, completing the single market and encouraging flexible labour markets. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown would largely agree, even though they would add the language of social Europe to make their case more palatable on the Continent. Any Government that wants to win over Europe to more liberal markets, as Mr Hague seeks, has to engage in the main European debate rather than stand aside and be accused of preaching.

His objections to a single currency are fundamental, and not just of timing. Monetary union would take European political union "well

beyond its acceptable limits", while we could find ourselves "trapped in the economic equivalent of a burning building with no exits". He outlined apparently insuperable constitutional and political obstacles, opening up a real gap with Labour. Monetary union would, by taking over more tax and spending decisions, "cross a line and abandon the independence of nation states".

The logical implication is to say "never, never" as a certain Lady would no doubt have put it. But Mr Hague stuck to the unconvincing official time of being against British membership now, and also opposing entry at the next election. But does this mean that Mr Hague might at some later stage support British entry? And what happens if monetary union works? Judging by his speech, there would never be a right time to enter. But Mr Hague did not explain what would happen to Brit-

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

ain, and sterling, outside a successful single currency.

Mr Hague's hardening of his European stance infuriated the pro camp, who saw the speech as widening the existing split. But his words were enthusiastically received by the sceptics, and Mr Hague probably speaks for a majority of his party. But a sizeable minority is worried that he is unnecessarily boxing himself in. Whatever the merits of his views of EMU, his strategy will only work if it fails (the nightmare of the Blair camp). Otherwise, the Tories' risk being left isolated by growing calls for British entry. As Kenneth Clarke said yesterday, if the Tories cannot reunite on Europe, they are not going to come back from opposition. The Tories' deep divisions mean that, in practice, they will no longer have a real say over what will happen. They will have to react to what the Government does.

Mr Hague has cast himself as an observer of these decisions, not a participant in them.

PETER RIDDELL

Paper rounds at risk, say Tories

By POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

GOVERNMENT moves to tighten competition law could threaten home newspaper deliveries, the Tories claimed yesterday.

John Redwood, Shadow President of the Board of Trade, accused the Government of creating "muddle and mess" in the newspaper industry by refusing to set out in detail the aims of the Competition Bill.

The Bill was amended in the Lords to outlaw so-called predatory pricing. But the Government plans to overturn the amendment, which was prompted by *The Times*'s price-cutting policy.

Mr Redwood said it was not clear whether ministers wanted the abolition of recommended cover prices for newspapers. That could enable supermarkets to offer them more cheaply than small newsagents in the same way that they had already undercut milkmen.

Speaking just before the Bill began its committee stage, he said: "Much more is at risk than the 30p *Monday Times* and the 50p *Saturday Times*. The whole structure of the newspaper industry is at risk under this legislation."

The Tories also argued that the Bill was not specific enough about the penalties for breaching the new legislation. Mr Redwood said the Government had left too much to the discretion of the Director-General of Fair Trading, who will police the rules.

After yesterday's committee meeting, Mr Redwood said that ministers had been unable to answer his questions about the effects of the Bill. However, the Department of Trade and Industry said that the Government would address specific points when they were debated in detail by the committee.

Last night the Trade Minister Ian McCartney dismissed Mr Redwood's comments as "totally unfounded". He said the Newspaper Publishers' Association had welcomed the replacement of the Restrictive Trade Practices Act.

"The National Federation of Retail Newsagents have also welcomed the Bill and no wonder. Under the Tories, 2,931 newsagents were forced to close because Mr Redwood and his Tory colleagues were too busy fighting themselves to fight the corner of newsagents."



DAVID JONES, MANAGING DIRECTOR, INFORMATION SYSTEMS, SCOTTISHPOWER.

These are exciting times for ScottishPower. When you are moving towards becoming a leading edge multi-utility organisation, it requires even greater than ever levels of effort to retain existing customers and win new business. A goal which required ScottishPower setting up a call centre to establish a much closer direct relationship with over 3 million customers. A dramatic shift, which had to be achieved quickly. ScottishPower chose GT-X, Graham Technology's award winning business process server software, running on a mix of SUN Microsystems Ultra 1 and Ultra 2 Application servers as the front end solution handling over 3,000 inbound and outbound calls per hour through their 400 seat call centre. David Jones commented "Call Centre Technology and Web Technology is going to be the major customer facing technology of the future, it is how we effectively interface with our customers now and in the future. We identified in the GT-X product and in Graham Technology a company and a

product that could allow the business to look to the future". With GT-X handling calls to and from the call centre, ScottishPower has met all its objectives of providing the highest quality customer service in a single location. GT-X's ease of use and implementation dramatically shortens training times for the operators who can pull data from around the organisation to help provide better feedback on customer needs. "The implementation of our call centre was a very high risk project. It is to the enormous credit of the Graham Technology team that they delivered a product that our customers think is outstanding, delivered within a very tight lead time and within budget". Graham Technology's expertise and the GT-X solution gives ScottishPower all the power it needs to lead into the new millennium. "We are convinced that this product is still the only product on the market that will take us where we need to go, or where any customer facing organisation needs to go. GT-X is an outstanding call centre product."

TO DISCUSS THE BENEFITS TO YOUR BUSINESS OF USING GT-X CALL 0141 891 4010

GT-X CALL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

Graham Technology Sun

www.gtnet.com

50p.

Switch to Cable's Wireless and every Saturday night the 50p of September 1998 any national call you make will cost a maximum of 50p, no matter how long you talk. All it takes to find out more is one call - and that one's free.

FreeCall 0800 056 8182
What can we do for you?

CABLE & WIRELESS

* Local calls, international calls, calls to non-participating numbers and calls made using the Cable & Wireless Calling Card do not qualify for this promotion. The offer is limited to customers who are registered to Cable & Wireless. Local calls are available to all Cable & Wireless customers. Other than 50p per minute, all other charges apply as of 1st May 1998 and applicable to residential customers only. Services available only to residential customers. Performance subject to availability of services and the offer ends 30th September 1998. All prices include VAT. For further information on the promotion or to request a copy of our terms and conditions, please call 0800 056 8182. For the purpose of this promotion, we may occasionally transfer or re-route your calls to other Cable & Wireless Call Centres.

Vatican backs

Paris passes law on 35-hour week

Fli tale wo

Life i

Maga

Vatican backs pardon for Pope's attacker after 17 years as 'model prisoner'



The Pope with Agca in 1983

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

MEHMET ALI AGCA, the Turkish gunman who tried to kill the Pope, will shortly be allowed out of prison on day release, and may be pardoned altogether, according to Italian press reports.

Agca, who fired at the Pope on St Peter's Square on May 13, 1981, was tried and sentenced to life imprisonment in July the same year. Now 39, he has served 17 years in solitary confinement at a high-security prison at Ancona, on

the Adriatic coast. Prison officials say he has been "a model prisoner", and under Italian law such prisoners are entitled to leave the prison during the day to work and return to their cells at night.

"If all the prisoners were like Agca we could leave the prison doors wide open," the Ancona prison governor was quoted as saying. Marina Magistrelli, Agca's lawyer, said that all the Red Brigade terrorists involved in the murder of Aldo Moro, the Italian politician and former Prime Minister, in 1978, had either been freed

or granted day release, yet Agca remained behind bars "even though he did not kill anyone".

Il Messaggero said the Agca case was "qualitatively different... this is no ordinary terrorist. He says he has reformed and repented, but he committed the crime of the century. Can you imagine this man roaming the streets of Rome?" But it said the Vatican had given the go-ahead for Agca's "semi-freedom or even pardon".

Francesca Zagoreo, the parole judge in charge of reviewing the Agca case, is also reported to have

given the green light. The day release papers "now only need a final signature from President Scalfaro", *Il Messaggero* said.

Signora Magistrelli said the procedures for obtaining leniency for Agca were "complicated", but she was "optimistic". Legal experts said day release was a "better option" for Agca than a full pardon, since if he was released he would be either deported or extradited to Turkey, where authorities want him to stand trial for the murder of a journalist which preceded the attempt on the Pope.

Agca has appealed for clemency five times. The first four applications were refused immediately. But the latest appeal, lodged a year ago, has apparently been given serious consideration because the Pope, who is seeking to "square accounts with history" before the millennium, indicated to the Italian judicial authorities that he had no objection. Joaquin Navarro-Valls, the Vatican spokesman, said the Pope had forgiven Agca when they met and prayed together in the terrorist's prison cell in 1983, and two years ago met Agca's

mother, Muzryyena Agca, in the Vatican. Last November the pontiff received Agca's brother Adnan. Judge Rosario Priore, who until this year was in charge of the investigation into the murder attempt, said if Agca was set free "the curtain will come down on the truth, and we will never know the full story... it will disappear with him". Agca claims he has told investigators "everything", but mystery lingers over whether he acted alone, as he claims, or had East European accomplices acting on the orders of Moscow.

Paris passes law on 35-hour week

FROM SUSAN BELL
IN PARIS

A CONTROVERSIAL Bill to reduce the working week from 39 hours to 35 was passed by the French National Assembly yesterday in a move described by many economists and business leaders as economic suicide.

Dismissing protests that the law will harm competitiveness and aggravate the migration of young professionals across the Channel, the Socialist-led Assembly ratified the Government's election promise to cut the working week without reducing wages by a show of hands. Members of the governing coalition — Socialists, Communists and Greens — voted for the Bill while the centre-right opposition voted against.

The Bill had produced 75 hours of debate, with the Gaullists arguing that it would have no effect on France's crippling unemployment levels of around 12 per cent and might even increase joblessness. The Government, however, claims that the measure will create between 210,000 and 280,000 extra jobs over five years.

The measure was originally championed by Lionel Jospin, the Socialist Prime Minister, as a way to reduce unemployment, although at one point late last year even he appeared to back away from it, describing the Left's election slogan "Work 35 hours get paid for 39" as "anti-economic". Under the terms of the law, all firms with more than 20 employees must introduce the 35-hour week by 2000. Firms with fewer than 20 workers will be allowed until 2002 to implement the measure. More than 15 million workers are estimated to be affected. The law includes no details on how it should be implemented, leaving management and trade unions to negotiate the terms. In 1999 practical details will be set out, based on the experience of companies that have adopted the measures in the interim.

Flight of young talent to Britain worries French

Taxes and lack of jobs are blamed for the third cross-Channel exodus in 300 years, writes Ben Macintyre

THE "brain drain" from France to Britain is the most serious exodus of talent since the Revolution of 1789, according to a French academic who yesterday blamed the wave of young people emigrating on heavy taxes and high unemployment.

"The number of French people in London is at least five times higher than it was 30 years ago, to the point where the British capital, containing more than 100,000 of our compatriots, is becoming... a large French town," Christian Morisson, professor of economics at the University of Paris, wrote in *Le Figaro*.

"This emigration to London is the third, after the [Protestant] Huguenots were chased out by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, 300 years ago, and that of the nobles or bourgeois during the Revolution, 200 years ago. These [movements] have something in common: the contempt for the rights of minorities and society's inability to reconcile the beliefs or the contradictory interests of its members."

Professor Morisson said that young people were being driven away by high taxes, political disillusionment, raging unemployment and a "society of protected privileges, from which the young are excluded".

The wisest of these young people realised that unless

they were graduates from elite colleges or members of the Socialist Party, they had a much better chance of succeeding abroad, he said.

"More and more young people with qualifications feel driven to leave a country where they are always being made to pay more and forever receiving less."

Traditionally, the French have been among the least likely Europeans to settle abroad, but Professor Morisson cited a study by Christian Saint-Etienne, a re-

YOUNG FLOOD

THE number of young French people seeking work in Britain over the past year has risen by 50 per cent, said CEI-Centre Charles Péguy, a French employment centre based in London. A company spokesman said the influx was as much due to the opening of Europe as to disillusionment with France.

searcher, showing that the exodus was running at up to 50,000 a year.

High employment costs had prompted many French companies to relocate in Britain, often bringing staff with them. One entrepreneur, Olivier Cadic, who moved to Ashford in Kent, has set up an association to encourage other French businessmen to join him in Britain.

"In ten years our country will have taken in a million unqualified immigrants and lost half a million highly skilled French people," Professor Morisson said.

"Either French society remains faithful to a certain taste for intolerance, and the exodus of talent and capital grows, or this society breaks with the secular tradition of sectarianism and looks for a compromise that will be able to stop the cumulative process of dislocation."

The cross-Channel emigration traffic is far from one way, of course, but while the French moving to Britain tend to be young and drawn by the economic opportunities, many Britons who choose to settle in France do so after retirement.



Agnès Vivier, at her desk at Citibank, says "in France everything is very in-house"

Banker thrives in new country

BY VICTORIA FLETCHER

AGNES VIVIER, 27, turned her back on what she perceived as poor career opportunities in France's financial sector, and moved to London last April. After completing a degree in Economics at Lille University and working for a bank in Luxembourg for two years, she arrived highly-qualified and had been offered a job in the Corporate Action Department of Citibank's

HIGH-FLIER

headquarters within weeks. Twelve months on, she remains critical of the French economic and social situation which helped to push her out.

"The working environment here is different to France. People judge you by your ability to do the job, not just your CV. It is also easy to make contacts whereas in France everything is very in-house. You have to get in a certain circle to get on there."

Miss Vivier, who lives in south London, also criticised the fat cat employers in France whom she said would not listen to young employees. She felt there were few opportunities for promotion unless you had worked for a company for at least five years. "You get put down a lot when you are a young worker there. It is much harder to be judged on anything other than how long you have worked 'somewhere, where you were educated and who you are friends with, nothing to do with ability."

'Life is peaceful, everyone is friendly and it is easy to meet new people'

ENGINEER

BY VICTORIA FLETCHER

GUILLOTME FRIOL, 23, graduated in engineering from the University of Montpellier two years ago, but spent the next eight months looking for a job in France. After completing his military service two months ago, he came to Britain and on

Monday began work as a design engineer for the Cambridgeshire company Cellbound Composites.

"I could not find work in France and had studied in Scotland as part of my degree. I knew I liked it here, so came back. Life is peaceful here, everyone is friendly to me and it is easy to meet new people."

Mr Friol hopes to spend at least the next few years working in Britain, becoming fluent in Eng-

lish. He likes the way British business operates, the open manner of the British and the friendly attitude he has been offered. The combined skills he will learn working as an engineer here will, he hopes, make him extremely employable in the future if he decides to work in another English-speaking country. But he doubts, feeling as he does now, that he will return to work in France.

ENTREPRENEUR

PIERRE BASCH, a French entrepreneur with a degree in law and political science, has already set up, expanded and sold one publishing company in Britain. He says he would not have been as successful in France, either in the publishing industry that attracted him across the Channel, or more recently in

starting his own multi-media company, CID.

As a Frenchman who has worked here for 12 years, he can see why ambitious and intelligent young French people are moving to Britain. "In France, the climate is depressed and everyone is complaining. The official word for the UK is that everyone is happy, so people are moving across." M Basch said that the key advantage

for entrepreneurs is the tax situation offered to foreign residents here. "I only get taxed on revenues I import into the UK. Therefore I have been successful and, although I thought I would go back to France, I now have no reason. Life is comfortable."

However, the relaxed social scene was also an attraction. He said that Britons are more liberal than the French: "At least they pretend to accept you for what you are."

Magazine condemns Murdoch's visit to Iran

BY RAYMOND SNOODY
MEDIA EDITOR

RUPERT MURDOCH, chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, parent company of *The Times*, has visited Tehran and had talks with officials in the Culture Ministry, the state-run radio

and television organisation and the head of the Iran football association.

The visit at the weekend was primarily private and Mr Murdoch spent most of the time visiting tourist sites with an Iranian friend who invited him to the country. The meetings, some of them

impromptu, were not with the top officials in the ministry and no business for News Corp is expected to result.

Mr Murdoch's visit was noted and denounced by *Sobh*, a hardline Islamic monthly magazine. The magazine's latest issue refers to Mr Murdoch as an "American

Zionist mogul who uses his satellite channels to destroy ethnic and religious cultures and foster corruption and prostitution throughout the world". Mr Murdoch's visit is widely perceived as a further indication of the rise of moderates in Iran.

The high interest savings account you can access immediately. Like Now.

The Instant Gold Savings Account gives you instant access to your money as often as you want, with no loss of interest.

And because it's a branch based account, instant access really does mean instant access.

What's more, Instant Gold also comes with a high interest rate of up to 6% gross p.a.*

So, if you've got £2,500 or more to invest, call 0500 758 400 or cut the coupon. But hurry. Like now.

Call free quoting ref below. **0500 758 400 TSB**

Ref: TM205 Yes, I would like to receive further information about the TSB Instant Gold Savings Account.

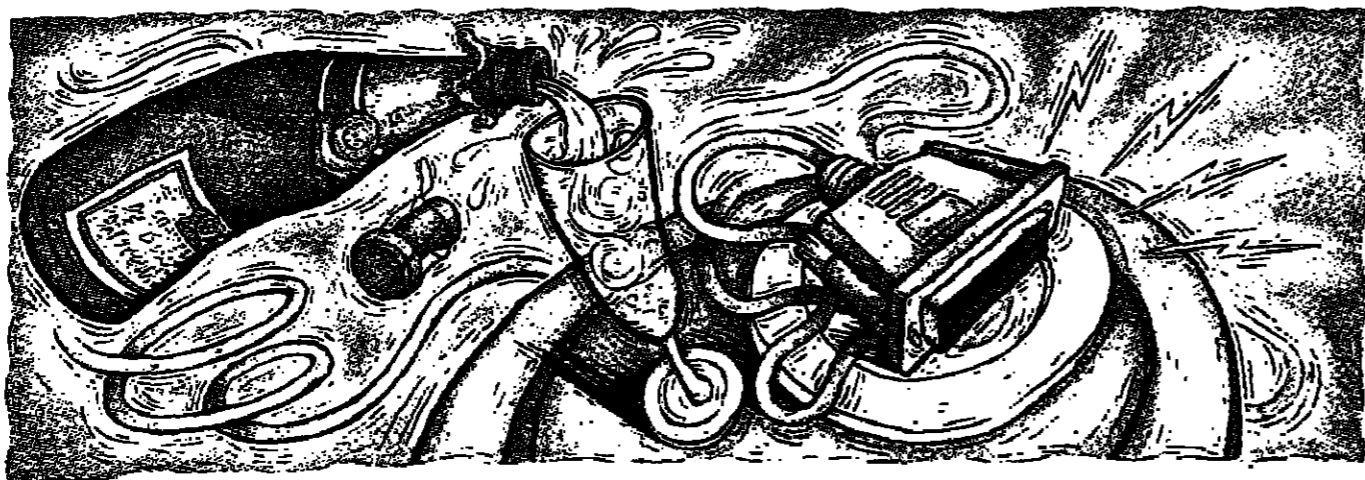
Surname: (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Ms)..... First Name:.....

Address:.....

Postcode:..... Telephone:.....

Do you have an existing TSB account? Yes, it is a savings account No. We'd like to contact you from time to time with details about services from TSB and the TSB group of companies. If we think they'd interest you. However, if you'd prefer not to be told about these services, please tick this box .

Send to: TSB PhoneBank, FREEPOST (BM6334), Glasgow G2 8BR.



A GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE AND A PRINTER CABLE, PLEASE.

Or indeed, a glass of wine and a laptop. Sheraton and AT&T have combined to take care of the business traveller's every whim.

You'll find fully equipped business centres and Smart Rooms™ if you prefer to work in privacy.

Another advantage of Smart Rooms™ is the AT&T Direct™ Service Speed Dial Feature. Just the touch of a button provides fast connections, with the clearest sound quality* on calls back to the US.

Sheraton's Business Traveller Services.

Successful business trips have seldom been so pleasant.

For reservations, call our Global Toll Free no. 00800-32535535 or visit www.sheraton.com. Or to know more about AT&T, see www.att.com/traveler.



AT&T

*Clearest based on 1997 customer preference study.

*Interest rate capped at 6.00% Gross rate of interest does not take into account the deduction of income tax at the lower rate. TSB Bank plc, Registered Office: 71 Lombard Street, London EC3N 4BS. Registered in England and Wales: Number 1092968. TSB Bank Scotland plc, Registered Office: Henry Dundas House, 120 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4JH. Registered in Scotland: Number 06287. TSB Bank plc and TSB Bank Scotland plc are members of the Banking Ombudsman Scheme and signatories to the Banking Code. To ensure security for our customers and staff and to help maintain service quality, some calls may be recorded and monitored.

Blair calls for fair world trade deal

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

TONY BLAIR yesterday launched the "millennium challenge" for global free trade, marking the fiftieth anniversary of international trade agreements with an appeal for a fairer but extended system.

Outlining five tasks for the 132 members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the Prime Minister said free trade was an "irreversible and irresistible trend", but that the needs and fears of developing countries had to be taken into account.

"The question now is not so much whether free trade — but how best to manage its consequences. This is the millennium challenge for us and the WTO," Mr Blair said.

Underlining the 50 per cent growth in exports worldwide since 1990 and the growth in investment, Mr Blair told heads of state and ministers attending a ceremony in Geneva that the benefits had not been felt evenly. He announced that Britain would contribute £10 million for technical assistance to help poor countries prepare for liberalisation, and urged other members to agree to zero tariffs on exports from the least-developed countries.

Mr Blair's proposals appeared to be closest to the aspirations of

President Mandela of South Africa. But the emphasis on the needs of developing countries was in stark contrast to an address by President Clinton on Monday evening, which called for a huge acceleration in worldwide free trade.

Mr Clinton, proclaiming himself an aggressive free-marketeer, shocked many officials by failing to address the concerns of the Third World in a speech that appeared to be designed for an American audience. The Prime Minister said it was essential to keep markets open and fair, and issued a warning against submitting to new pressures imposed by the Asian financial crisis.

"We must ensure that the current financial difficulties in Asia do not lead to a retreat in protectionism," he said.

He also urged countries to press on with further liberalisation, in particular in agriculture and services, but combined the suggestion with concern for environmental protection and minimum labour standards. He did not mention the textile industry, another key area for free trade in the eyes of developing countries.

"I believe protecting the environment is perhaps the major challenge

we face as we head towards the next century," Mr Blair told the assembly.

The Prime Minister underlined that the pace and extent of economic and technological change left people "feeling powerless and insecure about their future". It also bred social change that bred crime and fostered exclusion.

His vision outlined a middle ground between resistance to change and laissez-faire policies. He said that change needed to be managed. "Nowhere is this clearer than in the way we trade with each other," he added.

Listing American sanctions on trade with Cuba, Libya and Iran under the subtle forms of protectionism, the Prime Minister said the European Union and the US had found an effective way to deal with these obstacles during their summit on Monday.

Earlier, President Castro of Cuba, said a US-European compromise on American sanctions against the Caribbean island should not be concluded outside the WTO at the expense of Cuba. He criticised the deal as "unclear, contradictory, threatening for many countries and without ethics".



Tony Blair addressing the World Trade Organisation yesterday

Tobacco protest puts Zimbabwe economy at risk

Harare may lose its agricultural mainstay, Jan Raath writes

Zimbabwe's tobacco industry, which helped the Rhodesian economy to thrive through 14 years of United Nations sanctions, is on the brink of collapse and threatens to cause the economy to disintegrate.

Harare's cavernous tobacco auction floors, usually singing with the strident litanies of prices rattled off by sharp-eyed auctioneers watching for equally incomprehensible bids, fell almost silent on Monday as the 5,300 growers withheld their leaf in a week-long protest at low prices.

"Growers may never grow tobacco again," Robert Webb, president of the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association, told an emotional meeting of farmers, both black and white, in a rare show of unanimity, in a

Unless prices improve, we are down the tube?

world's second largest exporter of tobacco, and its farmers the only ones outside the United States to produce golden leaf rich in the chemical cocktail that provides the

aroma of expensive international brand cigarettes. Tobacco is also the country's largest export commodity, earning £373 million last year and is acknowledged as the cornerstone of the economy.

But since the six-month auction season began on March 30, prices have slumped to \$1.27 a kilo, 45 per cent below what they were at the same time last year, and far off the \$1.90 the farmers need to break even.

"I am finished," said Paul Munetsi, a small-scale farmer from Mount Darwin 120 miles northeast of Harare. "I have grown 3,000 kg and it should have been enough to repay my arrears. Now I can't. It is terrible."

Alan Gordon, a farmer from Darwendale, 60 miles northwest of Harare, said the tobacco issue was "far, far worse than the land issue" referring to President Mugabe's threats to seize nearly 1,500 white-owned farms. "It's not going to be a problem for the Government to get land after this."

Alarm signs are flashing with increasing frequency as the economy registers blow after blow, but the unexpected tobacco crash is likely to be the worst. Econ-

omists forecast a slump in the industries downstream that depend on tobacco, rapid unemployment and an accelerated slide in the shaky currency.

"Everything starts to slip once the tobacco price slips," said Arthur Baisley, vice-president of the Commercial Farmers Union, whose members account for 85 per cent of marketed farm output. "Unless tobacco prices improve, we are

down the tube. It's make or break for Zimbabwe's agricultural industry now. The world tobacco business is in trouble, with demand hit by economic crisis in the heavy-smoking Far East and multi-billion

dollar legal claims in the United States against cigarette makers for smoke-inflicted healthcare costs.

But the entire agricultural industry is in crisis. Farmers struggle against inflation of nearly 30 per cent and interest rates of 45 per cent, as well as a barrage of taxes, duties and levies that feed the Government's unrestrained spending habits. "If the Government put its house in order, we would be able to see this through," said Mr Baisley.

Maize, the national staple, is expected to be in short supply soon as farmers withhold their crop from sale after agreement between the country's racially divided farmers' unions to force the Government to rescind price controls introduced in January to forestall food riots.

In November when the Government published its list of 1,484 farms for confiscation, the owners of 170, prepared to accept whatever compensation the Government offered, did not challenge the order. Farmers' union executives say that since then many more owners, faced with ruin, have agreed to offer their land.

Many of the people we help see more of us than you might think.

It may surprise you to know that RNIB is here to help not only totally blind people, but also the one and a half million in this country with serious sight problems. The kind of problems that could affect any of us. By offering practical support and advice, we help people get on with their lives, despite their difficulties. So if you or anyone you know has a serious sight problem, or you'd like to make a donation, call the RNIB Helpline on 0345-66 99 99.

You don't have to be blind to see us.



Royal National Institute for the Blind RNIB

Charity Registration Number 229227

FAR EAST PRICEBUSTERS

HONG KONG	3 nts 4* hotel	Dpts from 11/5 - 14/6	£349
BANGKOK	5 nts 4* hotel	Dpts incl 30/6 from	£399
PHUKET	10 nts 4* hotel	Dpts incl 30/6 & 16/9 - 21/10	£489

THAILAND BEACH RESORT
 12 nts ROYAL CLIFF HOTEL MINI SUITES
 Dpts incl 30/6 & 16/9 - 15/10
£519

HONG KONG
 FLIGHT ONLY Departures until 30/6
£339
 BANGKOK hotels £110 pppnt SINGAPORE hotels £124 pppnt
 H.KONG hotels £119 pppnt All prices based on twin share

Business Travel at your fingertips...

100 leading scheduled airlines, with 800,000 discount fares to 1,000 destinations

BUSINESS CLASS			
DUBAI	*£597	SINGAPORE	*£998
NEW YORK	*£647	FLORIDA	*£1146
BANGKOK	*£749	AUSTRALIA	*£1175
JO'BURG	*£759	CALIFORNIA	*£1451
CHICAGO	*£851	TOKYO	*£1765
HONG KONG	*£993	NEW ZEALAND	*£1780
FIRST CLASS			
NEW YORK	*£969	AUSTRALIA	*£1883
HONG KONG	*£1433	TOKYO	*£2658
DUBAI	*£1580	JO'BURG	*£2940

* based on two passengers travelling

HOTELS
 JW MARRIOTT, BANGKOK from £31 pppnt
 HYATT REGENCY, H.K. from £23 pppnt
 HILTON, SINGAPORE from £43 pppnt
 accommodation based on twin share

* Car Rental * Transfers * Insurance *

BRITISH AIRWAYS Preferred Agent

Business FREE 0500 747 757
 Travel CALL 01772 727 757
 Far East: 01772 727 757

TRAVEL EXTRAS
 * Hotels * Insurance * Car Rental *
 * Motorhomes * Villas * Coach Tours *
 OPEN 9am - 9pm 7 DAYS A WEEK

For our latest offers see ITV **Teletext** Page 275
 ABTA 02027 RETAIL AGENTS FOR ATOL HOLDERS
 ALL PREPAYABLE AIRPORT TAXES INCLUDED

Suharto reform refuses to



21st Century Book

Call our sales team
 Fax 0181 600 0122

Prices from £79!

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MAY 20 1998

'Why doesn't the President just go? He's an old man. What more does he want?'

Suharto pledges reforms but refuses to resign

THOUSANDS of students massed outside the Indonesian Parliament yesterday as their demands for President Suharto to resign were rejected. Despite three months of protest, hundreds of deaths and a growing chorus of opposition from almost all sides, the President made it clear that he will stay on to oversee reform at his own pace but will not run for president again.

In a national television address, Mr Suharto promised election and a revamp of the political process. Significantly, he set a timetable for any of the reforms. The president, in an extraordinary frank speech for one used to wielding absolute power, said that to continue in office was not important for him: "It is just as honourable to be an ordinary citizen as it is to be a president."

The student protesters wore yellow in memory of the "people's power" movement which compelled President Marcos to resign and flee the Philippines 12 years ago. They arrived in buses festooned with banners. The slogans declared: "Suharto Dictator" and "The Cabinet Must Resign". Dozens unfurled a giant banner with the words



Indonesia's embattled dictator has once again outmanoeuvred his opponents, David Watts writes from Jakarta

"Speedily remove and prosecute President Suharto". Yesterday morning national television showed Muslim leaders, Islamic scholars and generals going into the presidential palace to consult with Mr Suharto. For the next two-and-a-half hours the country seemed to hold its breath as it awaited the President's response.

When it came, it was loaded with promises. He promised to set up a reform committee and new laws on general elections, political parties and the composition of the parliament. He offered anti-monopoly and anti-corruption legislation. There was no mention of when these things would happen.

There was, however, emphasis on the constitution and national stability. He said that the country could stride into bloodshed, and even civil war, if the constitution was not respected.

The constitutional approach suits Mr Suharto. Presidential

elections are not due until his term ends in 2003 and there is no mechanism for parliamentary elections. The President has decided, again, that the country cannot do without its *babak* - its "father".

"Why doesn't he just go?" said a bespectacled young female student. "He's an old man. What more does he want? He's got everything he needs." Like thousands of other Indonesians, she knew that the military, through General Wiranto, the Commander-in-Chief and Defence Minister, had elected the previous evening to stick with the President. Once more Mr Suharto had waited for his opponents to show their hands and had responded with a devastating hand of his own, with the military as his ace. The President's opponents have no political clout.

"Speaker Harmoko miscalculated when he called for the President to resign," one observer said. "He thought it was the real thing, but he was calculating superficially. He didn't look at the real power behind what was going on."

"We were dreaming," a middle-aged Indonesian intellectual said. "We had an illusion that ABRI [the army] was going to side with the reform movement, but it turns out they enjoy power-sharing more. They now realise that as Suharto gets weaker, the army gets stronger."

Amien Rais, the leader of Muhammadiyah, one of Indonesia's largest Muslim movements, said that major demonstrations would go ahead today. "I don't believe he is going to hold elections," he said. "He is just playing chicken with his people."

The students and Mr Rais are in a dilemma: if they do not demonstrate, they run the risk of losing credibility with the people; if they do, they run the risk of being accused of provoking anarchy.

The outlook for the country's economy is now desperate. Importers cannot even open letters of credit to buy urgently needed Thai rice. Despite the devaluation of the rupiah by 80 per cent since July last year, exports are virtually at a standstill.



About 150 supporters of President Suharto shout slogans in Jakarta yesterday

Get out while you still can, Foreign Office tells Britons

By David Watts

THE British Government urged all Britons last night to leave Indonesia within 24 hours before huge demonstrations expected today.

Derek Fatchett, the Foreign Office Minister, said: "We would like people to get out as quickly as possible. The key thing for their own safety is to get out of Indonesia. If they can get out in the next 24 hours, then that is all well and good because that is, in our view, the best option."

The number of Britons remaining is estimated to be in the hundreds, out of a total of about 6,000. Some 4,500 were registered with the embassy, a further 500 residents were not registered, and there were estimated to be about 1,500 tourists in the country when the unrest began.

Last night a chartered British Airways Boeing 747 was at Jakarta Airport as embassy staff helped Britons to leave.

Other charter flights may be arranged later.

A British Airways official said that about 1,800 Britons had left the country in the past few days.

A Foreign Office spokesman in London said: "We will see how things develop tomorrow. We will see if the airport is open and if the airport road is safe for people to leave."

The spokesman said that one, not two, British men had

been murdered during the recent violence. Because of confusion with the police, it was believed originally that two had died.

The Briton who was killed was Neil Peacock, 35, from Newcastle upon Tyne. The motive appears to have been robbery and Indonesian police are continuing their investigation.

Mr Peacock's widow is flying out from England to collect her husband's body.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Montenegro says no to Milosevic

Belgrade: The constitutional crisis that threatens to end the Yugoslav federation of Serbia and Montenegro deepened yesterday as Slobodan Milosevic nominated one of his most hated henchmen as the new federal Prime Minister (Tom Walker writes).

The Montenegrin parliament rejected Mr Milosevic's choice of Momir Bulatovic, and voted not to recognise his Government. Analysts fear that Mr Milosevic is engineering an excuse to declare a state of emergency in Montenegro. Mr Bulatovic achieved notoriety in January when he led a mob in an attack on the offices of an opponent in Podgorica, the Montenegrin capital.

Clue to vanished couple

Sydney: The mysterious disappearance of an American couple while scuba-diving off the Great Barrier Reef took a new turn when a woman reported seeing them after they were reported missing. Tom Lonergan, 34, and his wife Eileen, 28, both US Peace Corps volunteers, vanished near Cairns on January 25. But they were not reported missing for two days. Jeanette Brentnall said that a couple she believed to be the Lonergans bought maps in her bookshop in Port Douglas, north of Cairns, on January 27. (AFP)

Millions in cyclone alert

Dhaka: The Bangladesh Government has ordered millions of people to leave coastal towns and villages which lie in the path of a huge cyclone. The military has been put on alert with lorries and medical teams ready to move in. About 35,000 volunteers were trying to get people out of the southeastern port city of Chittagong, the nearby resort of Cox's Bazar and islands just off the coast, the United News of Bangladesh agency said. (AFP)

Former Tokyo leader dies

Tokyo: Sosuke Uno, right, a former Japanese Prime Minister who stepped down in 1989 amid allegations of sexual relationships with geisha girls, has died of lung cancer. He was 75. The popular press uncovered tales of Uno's parsimonious treatment of his geisha mistress, and his miserly image - far more than the sexual relationship - hurt him with his Liberal Democratic Party. (Reuters)



Youth 'raped woman of 99'

Johannesburg: South African police have arrested and charged a 13-year-old boy for raping a 99-year-old woman in Western Cape province. "This little kid said she must come look in the cemetery... he threatened her with a knife and then raped her," Captain Kobus Barnard said. The rape happened on Friday about 90 miles northeast of Cape Town at the farming village of De Doorns. (Reuters)

Himalaya peak rescue

Kathmandu: Four Japanese mountaineers were rescued by helicopter from the world's third-highest peak, Mount Kanchenjunga, in the Himalayas after two of their party died, rescue sources said. A team of five scaled the 28,168 ft "peak, but two died of exhaustion during the descent. Their bodies were left behind because of blizzards. (AFP)



No yet time to go: President Suharto yesterday

21st Century Box

When you invest in a PC for the Millennium, you expect the best. You expect your PC to do the job you want, when you want to do it. Invest in a custom-built Dantam PC with Intel® Pentium® Processors with MMX™ technology and it will live up to all your expectations. We have the awards to prove it. Not only are Dan Technology's products streets ahead, with a series of awards for product excellence, but we offer you first-class technical support and an enviable after-sales service. Our Quality Assurance system ensures you a premier service from the moment you request a brochure. We are behind you every step of the way offering solutions to all of your IT needs. So if you need to get the job done and you aren't prepared to settle for anything but the best, pick up the phone today. We'll send you a full-colour information pack with technical specifications at your fingertips. And be reassured we share your pursuit of excellence.

Call our sales staff on 0181 830 1100, Fax 0181 830 1122 AND QUOTE CODE T20/S

SHOWROOMS OPEN MON-FRI 9.30AM-6PM AT IRONBRIDGE CLOSE, GREAT CENTRAL WAY, LONDON NW10 0NW AND 10-11 FEAST FIELD TOWN STREET, HORSFORTH, LEEDS (TEL: 0113 259 1200)

INTERNET: www.dan.co.uk



Prices from £791 INC. VAT & DELIVERY (FINANCE AVAILABLE)

dan

Technology

Thinking outside the box



1997/98 ANNUAL AWARDS

Service & Reliability Award PC Magazine, 1997 Survey

Best Service Award PC Pro, 1997 Survey

Customer Service Award PC Plus 1997 Annual Awards

Best On-Site Maintenance PCW 1997 Survey

Best Server Award PC Direct Hits 1996 Survey

Best Budget PC What PC? 1997 Annual Awards

Best Professional PC What PC? 1997 Annual Awards

"Dan can truly be said to be the best organisation at delivering excellence in customer satisfaction" PC Magazine, Aug 1997.

So you thought CCTV was too expensive!

A complete CCTV Business Security Solution for only

£995

Special offer limited period

PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS PACKAGE

- Four HPC 420 SV05 fine resolution fully weatherproof CCTV cameras incorporating Sony imaging technology
- Hilux Quatrovision II High resolution, (700 line) steel cased professional monitor with 12" screen
- Philips TL 24R Turbodrives 24 hour time lapse professional video recorder with time and date
- Fully automatic camera switching with auto-intruder detection facility
- Cameras suitable for both indoor or outdoor use
- Surveillance specification directional audio on all cameras
- Both vision and sound recorded
- All cables terminated for quick and easy plug together connection
- Plug and play installation



INCLUDES TOP QUALITY VIDEO RECORDER

Philips 24hr professional time lapse security video recorder with time and date display

Why pay £3990 - £5000 for old fashioned CCTV systems when you can benefit from our bulk purchase power and buy this top quality branded equipment direct?

For more information on this innovative new product range please ring

01935 82 64 64

The Duchy Buildings, North Street, Soke sub Hamdon, Somerset TA14 6QR



All products in this package carry a full 12 months manufacturers warranty. Extended warranties available. *Professional installation service available if required. Prices shown exclude VAT at 17.5%. Free corner as time of going to press. Security Vision Ltd reserves the right to alter prices and upgrade product specifications without notice or obligation. Photograph shown are for illustration purposes only. Monitor screen size indicated is based on standard industry practice and represents CRT size. Actual viewing area may be approx 1" less.

A NEW GENERATION OF CCTV INNOVATION

Israelis accused of police torture

Jerusalem: Israel tortures at least 850 Palestinian detainees a year, a leading Israeli human rights group said on the eve of today's court hearing of petitions to ban violent interrogations.

The B'Tselem group, the Israeli information centre for human rights in the occupied territories, estimated that Israel's General Security Service interrogates between 1,000 and 1,500 Palestinians a year.

"Some 85 per cent of them — at least 850 persons a year — are subjected to methods which constitute torture," it said in a report, urging Israel to abandon the "dark ages".

The methods, detailed in court documents and Palestinian evidence, include placing hoods and shackles on prisoners, putting them in painful positions, depriving them of sleep and shaking them violently. (Reuters)

Lebanese gather to watch killers hanged at dawn

TWO convicted murderers were led up the steps to the gallows at dawn yesterday in the coastal resort of Tabarja, 15 miles north of Beirut, for Lebanon's first public execution in 15 years.

Wissam Nayef Issa, a 25-year-old Lebanese, and Hassan Abu Jabal, a 24-year-old Bedu, were sentenced to death for the 1995 killing of Charbel Sakim and his sister, Marie. The victims stumbled upon the two men while they were robbing their home in Tabarja.

A crowd of about 1,200 assembled to watch the two men being hanged. The frail-looking gallows had been erected in front of the town's police station, only 20 yards away from the scene of the killing for which Issa and Abu Jabal were about to die. The spectators, mainly young men, some with their girlfriends, packed the balconies and rooftops of the neighbouring buildings overlooking the

The first public execution in 15 years is witnessed by Nicholas Blanford

square. "They will be serving their coffee and sweets right now. We Lebanese are always hospitable," one onlooker said.

A group of mini-skirted Romanian prostitutes, having just finished a night's work at the nearby clubs, watched the proceedings blankly.

The execution was scheduled for 4.30am and as dawn broke policemen removed the canvas sheets draped over the gallows to the collective hush of the audience. Two burly executioners, clad in white gowns and hoods, lending

them the appearance of members of the Ku Klux Klan, took their positions beside the steps leading to the gallows.

The crowd fell silent as the two murderers, dressed in black trousers and white shirts, were led unprotesting from the police station. Abu Jabal, with an expression of tired resignation, stood meekly while the executioner placed the noose around his neck. Issa, realising the finality of the moment, collapsed to his knees and had to be lifted by a policeman so the noose could be fitted. The plank of wood upon which the two men were standing suddenly fell away but only Abu Jabal dropped. His companion was teetering on the edge of the gallows and had to be given a shove by the executioner before he too fell.

The crowd broke into a ripple of applause, followed by a few cheers, as the two men swung at the end of ropes. The executioner made sure there would be no further signs of



Police and photographers surround the two murderers after yesterday's execution in the resort of Tabarja

life by savagely pulling the knot around the men's necks.

Issa and Abu Jabal were sentenced in line with legislation passed by the Lebanese Government in 1994, tightening the existing death penalty laws. Since then, 14 people

have been executed. The surprise decision to execute the two publicly ran counter to the Lebanese Government's policy of fostering economic and political ties with the West.

Previous executions took place away from the public

eye, in the courtyard of Rounieh prison, the country's largest jail, in the hills above Beirut. Only three public executions were carried out in the 35 years before the passage of the law, the last in 1983. Beirut, despite its anarchic

image, is considerably safer than most cities in the West. About 30 people protesting against capital punishment marched down the street with a banner reading: "We mourn the victims of the murder and those of the hanging."

Netanyahu fury at aide's gossip about his wife

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

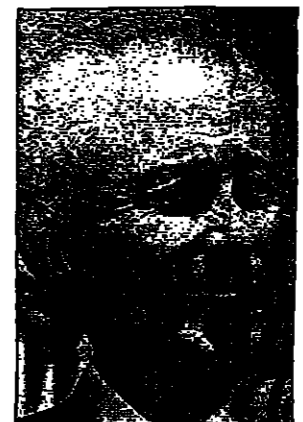
OUTSPOKEN remarks about the alleged instability of Benjamin Netanyahu's wife and the sexual appetites of the late Moshe Dayan quoted in the latest edition of *The New Yorker* prompted a political furor in Israel yesterday.

The comments were attributed to one of the Israeli Prime Minister's closest aides, David Bar-Illan, his Communications Director. Mr Bar-Illan later denied that he had made the remarks to David Rernnick, a Pulitzer prizewinning American journalist.

Israeli political sources said that Mr Netanyahu had been angered by the alleged remarks about his third wife, Sara, who has frequently been at the centre of political scandals over her tantrums and high-handed behaviour. The Prime Minister dismissed the 17-page article as "gossip" and has refused to refer to it publicly.

The most damaging section of the largely unflattering portrait of Mr Netanyahu came in quotations that Mr Rernnick claimed to have been given knowingly by Mr Bar-Illan, a former Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*, whom he described as "a spinmeister extraordinaire".

"Bar-Illan is supposedly a master of the press, but when I asked him about the marriage, on the record, with my pen and notebook out for all to see, he rolled his eyes and said, 'Look, Sara is not the most stable woman in the world... Now she only appears at the appropriate things, receptions for children, things for the retarded or the disadvantaged.'" Mr Rernnick wrote. "And it works. It is OK. Finally, it has become boring to Israelis. Had she run half naked through the streets, it might have been



Bar-Illan: accused journalist of lying

something else, but it's under control."

Yesterday Mr Bar-Illan angrily denied the remarks attributed to him. "It's just simply a lie," he told Israel radio, adding that he did not understand how a reputable journalist like Mr Rernnick "could do what he did."

Mr Rernnick deflected his story in interviews with Israeli journalists who tracked him down in St Petersburg. "I took very careful notes which he can see... If it causes him difficulty or pain, I am sorry, but the fact of the matter is, it is an interview, and he said these things," Mr Rernnick said.

The *New Yorker* also infuriated Yael Dayan, a prominent left-wing Knesset member, by quoting Mr Bar-Illan saying in references to her father, one of Israel's greatest war heroes: "The confession of adultery, the Sara business, it's all hurt him [Mr Netanyahu] more than I would have expected. For years in Israel, no one cared about such things. Moshe Dayan screwed half the women in the army and even got into trouble over it, but we said we did not care."

Profile, page 19

Because we offer over 30 destinations in Spain and more than 20 in Latin America.

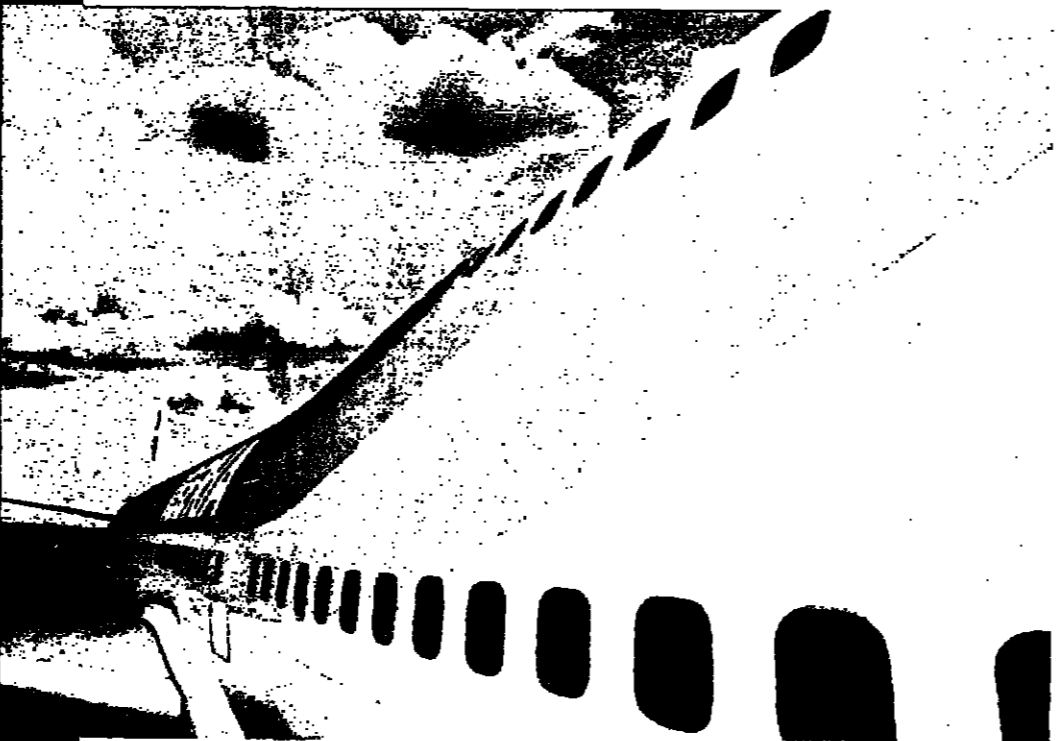
Because we have one of the world's most modern fleets. Because we have over 70 years flying experience. Because, day

after day, more than 22,000 people give their best, so that you can enjoy the service and attention you deserve.

Because we've become Europe's fourth largest airline. Because we'd like to be the airline of your choice when flying to

Spain and Latin America.

Leading the way to Spain and Latin America.



Smaller.

Switch to Cable & Wireless and see the difference. Smaller, more powerful, more reliable. All in one. FreeCall 0800 056 8182. What can we do for you?

CABLE & WIRELESS

* Price Plans terms and conditions apply. For full details see our price list or call 0800 056 8182. All information correct as at 1st May 1998 and applicable to residential customers only. Service available only at serviceable locations. Applications subject to credit. Service, price and coverage subject to change. All prices include VAT. For quality of service purposes we occasionally monitor or record your telephone calls to Cable & Wireless Call Centre.

Clinton 'vow' to jailed pa

Rescuers parachut

GTincre

£34.95 ALL-INCLUSIVE

0541 56 30

لقدنا من الاصل

Clinton 'broke vow' to pardon jailed partner

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON promised to pardon Susan McDougal, his former White-water partner, if she was convicted, according to a disputed account in a book published yesterday.

The episode is described in *Arkansas Mischief*, the posthumous memoir of Mrs McDougal's late husband, James, who died in prison of a heart attack two months ago. McDougal also accuses the President of lying under oath when he said he knew nothing about fraudulent loans.

The book claims the offer of a pardon was made after Mr Clinton had provided taped evidence for the McDougals' fraud trial during a White House session attended by lawyers and the accused couple two years ago.

As McDougal tells it, Mr Clinton tapped him on the shoulder as the participants were leaving the Map Room. "He wanted to talk privately. We moved out of earshot of

others." Mr Clinton asked how the McDougals were holding up during the trial and McDougal says he replied: "I'm willing to stick with it, but if it doesn't work out, or whatever, can you pardon Susan?"

"You can depend on that," Mr Clinton is said to have replied. McDougal continues: "I injected a bit of humour. 'Like I say with all lawyers, I mean promptly.' He grinned and nodded. 'If you all hang with me, I'll do it.'"

This narrative was denounced as "absolutely false" by Mr Clinton's top personal lawyer, David Kendall, who said: "I was with the President every nanosecond he was in the presence of Mr McDougal precisely to assure that no one could ever credibly make an outlandish allegation like this. It did not happen."

A few months after the taping, Mr Clinton refused to rule out a pardon for Mrs McDougal, who had by then

been found guilty. At a press conference two weeks ago he said no one caught up in Whitewater had ever asked for a pardon and there had been no discussions on the topic.

However, Mrs McDougal has refused to testify to a grand jury about her business dealings with Bill and Hillary Clinton. It has cost her dear. She spent 18 months in prison for contempt and has now been charged with obstruction of justice by Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor.

Her unyielding stance has inevitably fuelled speculation that she anticipates a presidential pardon, perhaps shortly before Mr Clinton's term expires on January 20, 2001, and long after he could suffer political damage.

Elsewhere in his book, McDougal says Susan admitted to him that she had an affair with Mr Clinton. She has said that as a "small-town country girl" and a Southern Baptist she would never have an affair.

McDougal chronicles a web of financial dealings, including loans to Mr Clinton's campaigns, through Madison Guaranty, the Whitewater bank that McDougal owned. The collapse of Madison cost taxpayers \$60 million (£37 million).

McDougal, a hustler who acknowledges giving false evidence to try to avoid prison, accuses the Clintons of constantly seeking favours and of perjury themselves in evidence about their ties to Madison. The Clintons needlessly "pitched aside" their old friends and diminished themselves through a string of lies, McDougal says.

According to Mr Kendall, the book is so full of scurrilous falsehoods that it should be listed as fiction.

For all the virulence of the White House attack, McDougal's book gains a measure of credibility from having been co-written by Curtis Wilkie, a seasoned political correspondent for the *Boston Globe*.



Lyndon B. Johnson being sworn in on Air Force One beside Jacqueline Kennedy, a widow for two hours

Presidential jet that carried Kennedy coffins takes final flight into history

An aircraft that served US leaders for more than 35 years has been mothballed, writes Tom Rhodes

IT WAS a moment frozen in time on an aircraft that made its final flight into the history books last night.

Just 98 minutes after the assassination of President Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson took the 34-word presidential oath on board Air Force One. Jacqueline Kennedy, her stockings and shocking pink skirt still spattered with her late husband's blood, stood stunned and pallid at his side.

The Boeing 707 became further associated with the assassinated President on a November day in 1963 when the aircraft, flying from Love Field in Dallas, landed at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington, where Kennedy's coffin was unloaded.

The crew, believing it inappropriate for the body to travel in the cargo hold, had removed a bulkhead and two rows of seats to make room

for the coffin in a passenger cabin.

After 35 years of service, the same aircraft flew last night to Wright-Patterson airfield in Dayton, Ohio, to be retired beside other perhaps less famous presidential aircraft.

"If history had wings, it would probably be this aircraft," said Al Gore, the Vice-President, who used the jet, now named Special Air Mission 26000, to fly 200 missions to 58 countries last year. It had been the first presidential aircraft to become an icon for an entire country, identified not with the insignia of the US Air Force or Navy, but with the simpler

and more powerful "The United States of America".

"It was always a pleasure to be aboard the airplane landing anywhere in the world, showing the colours with the big flag on the tail," said Chief Master Sergeant William Chappell, who was flight engineer for more than 19 years before retiring.

The \$8 million aircraft played a prominent role in American history after its delivery to Andrews in 1962, setting 30 speed records on a visit to Moscow in 1963 and flying Mr Kennedy to Berlin the same year. After making his renowned "Ich bin ein Berliner" speech, the President told the crew: "We'll

never have another day like this." Five months later he was dead, shot as his motorcade drove through Dallas.

Still in service three decades later, President Clinton dispatched the Boeing to carry the body of Mrs Kennedy Onassis from New York to Washington for burial beside her slain husband at Arlington National Cemetery. It was used by Henry Kissinger, when he was Secretary of State, for 13 secret meetings with North Vietnamese officials at the end of the Vietnam War and carried President Nixon to Beijing in 1972 for his historic overture to Communist China.

In a final moment of glory this year, the aircraft briefly became Air Force One again, flying to rescue President Clinton when his Boeing 747, fitted with the most modern equipment, became stuck in mud at Champaign airport in Illinois.

Three of Sinatra's wives to attend funeral

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

THREE of Frank Sinatra's four wives as well as his three children are expected to attend his funeral today in a show of solidarity that would have pleased the singer, and perhaps surprised him.

As reports emerged that the children have wrested control of Sinatra's entire music catalogue from their stepmother, final preparations were being made yesterday for a private Mass at which his loved ones will appear together despite their long-held rivalries.

Sinatra is to be buried next to his mother near Palm Springs after a service at the Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Beverly Hills. In keeping with his lifelong loathing of the press, a news blackout is planned. But a columnist for *Daily Variety* reported that both Mia Farrow and Nancy Sinatra will attend along with Barbara Sinatra, the performer's widow.

Nancy Sinatra was said to be inconsolable when he married the 19-year-old Farrow in 1966. She will be supported at the funeral by her three children.

The congregation in the 600-seat church is expected to include Gregory Peck, Shirley MacLaine, Bob Hope, Kirk Douglas and Jerry Lewis. Sinatra is to be buried with a military honour guard, said the *Daily Variety*, a privilege seldom afforded to civilians. It also said that his last words before he died last Thursday were: "I'm losing it."

Yet behind the facade, family tensions persist. The singer's children, long aggrieved at being denied royalties from his records made by Columbia and Capitol records before 1960 and after 1988, have now won them from their stepmother to add to the Reprise catalogue they own, sources said. It is reported that Barbara Sinatra will inherit all her husband's property including homes in Beverly Hills and Malibu, and a \$30 million (£18.5 million) interest in a thriving beer distributorship.



Susan and James McDougal: the White House says his book is full of scurrilous falsehoods

Rescuers parachute into sea to save sailor

Washington: A rescue team has parachuted from a US Coast Guard plane into the Atlantic in a daring attempt to save a critically ill seaman, officials said.

The four-member team left in a C130 from Gabreski, New York, and flew five hours to the 150ft *Cam Civit*, a Portuguese fishing boat, 1,000 miles east of Bermuda, the New York Air National Guard said.

The C130 aircraft arrived at the scene early yesterday. Major Hadj Thomas, of the New York Air National Guard's

102nd Rescue Squadron, said. The team jumped into the sea near the fishing boat with a kit which included an inflatable boat.

Earlier, Major James Finkle, a spokesman for the New York Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing, said that the night jump was difficult because seas were running above nine feet with winds blowing about 25 knots.

Once the team was on board the *Cam Civit*, a flight surgeon in the C130 would

be in radio contact with the rescue team as they tried to stabilise the condition of the seaman, Major Finkle had added.

Major Thomas said that the victim was suffering from internal bleeding. The rescue team planned to transfer him to a merchant vessel in the area, which would be met by a Coast Guard helicopter about 200 miles from Bermuda. He would then be hoisted on board the helicopter and flown to a nearby hospital, Major Finkle said. (AFP)

GT incredible value

Ford Escort 1.8 GTi. Air Conditioning. Sporty Looks. Unbelievable Extras.



£34.95* A DAY

ALL-INCLUSIVE

The thrills start here. A Ford Escort 1.8 GTi with irresistible extras. £34.95 a day all inclusive. And the catch? You simply won't want to bring it back.

Call Budget Central Reservations on **0541 56 56 56** or contact your local travel agent.

Budget

Get out of the ordinary.

Winner of 1996, 1997 and 1998 Best UK Business Car Rental Company Award - Business Travel World Magazine

30p THE TIMES

MONDAY 30p
These Sports brings you match reviews, analysis, authority and wit.

TUESDAY 30p
Body and Mind keeps you up to date on health issues.

WEDNESDAY 30p
Interfax is devoted to new technology. Style and Fashion covers haute couture to the High Street.

THURSDAY 30p
The Arts reviews the latest book and film releases. And if you're looking for a change of scenery or career, try Travel and Appointments.

FRIDAY 30p
If you're a teacher, a student or a parent, Education is for you. Plus Music brings you rock, pop, classical and opera reviews.

The rise of the micro-celebs



Micro-celebs: James Major and Emma Noble at the British Academy Television Awards



Famous for... what, exactly? From left: Della Bovey, Sheryl Gascoigne, Julia Carling, Tamara Beckwith and Tara Palmer-Tomkinson

A virulent new species has invaded our media. It can be found everywhere, colonising prime-time TV, devastating tons of newsprint, killing content, undermining achievement, destroying our fragile intellectual ecosystem. They are the micro-celebs.

Micro-celebs are out for world domination, and this is how they operate: on Monday night, after the British Academy Television Awards, when juries of their peers honoured the cream of our creative talent, most newspapers did not bother to name the winners. Instead, they carried large pictures of Emma Noble — a sometime television presenter and the fiancée of the son of a former Prime Minister — who attended the ceremony in a transparent frock and a G-string.

This was in the same week that the Chelsea Flower Show was promoted with snaps of the little-known horticulturalist Anthea Turner, whose love rival Della Bovey enjoyed another multiple photo spread, as did the tragic ex-rock chick Paula Yates. The queen of them all, Tara Palmer-Tomkinson, hit new depths of pointlessness "reporting" on the wedding at which Liz Hurley upstaged the bride by wearing knickers revealed by a slashed-to-the-navel scarlet frock.

In this Tara at least settled the hottest media debate of the year (forget Sandrine, the curio, any peace process anywhere) by authoritatively announcing that the knickers were "sparkly". The *Guardian* or leopard print as claimed by *The Sun*. Meanwhile, the competition — Tamara Beckwith, Daniil Minogue, Sheryl Gascoigne, Tania Bryer, Julia Carling et al — no doubt sat at home with their image gurus

Celia Brayfield on the minor celebrities who have invaded the media

urgently rethinking their knicker policy. It is a career, being a micro-celeb, and a whole symbiotic industry has developed to create, direct and promote this career, telling the professionals where to go, what to do, what to wear, what to say and who to be in order to score maximum exposure.

It is pathetic but it works. No event is safe from a micro-celeb hijacking. The opening of the British Library was marked with pictures of Kathy Lette's legs; very nice legs, probably prettier than Salman Rushdie's, but not the ideal symbol for the high temple of British writing.

At least supermodels model. Micro-celebs don't do anything. Or if they do, it is totally overshadowed by their media profiles. Many of them jostle their way in front of the lenses on the arm of a man who has a genuine claim to fame and then put every trick in the knicker drawer to stay there. Their photogeny is the fuel in the reactors of international publicity. Western civilisation can congratulate itself, we have attained post-Warhol nirvana, fame is now a social attribute that has no meaning whatsoever.

Mick Jagger three decades, two wives and four children ago but she is still in *Hello!* magazine. Julie Christie has hardly worked for years but she had a full broadsheet page this week to say how much she craves anonymity and to admit that "the camera quite likes me". Well, quite.

Micro-celebs are not about beauty. Beauty commands worship, it doesn't make undignified lunges for attention.

From Helen of Troy onwards there have always been women famous for making flesh the aesthetics of their time. Men who are our contemporaries stood on chairs to catch a glimpse of such 20th-century beauties as Diana Cooper. I'm sure women did, too, because the truth is that most of us are fascinated by great beauty and no more jealous of it than of other natural gifts.

Micro-celebs are about grabbing attention. In our visual culture visual attention is the only kind worth grabbing, and it is still largely in the gift of people with the Y chromosome. The most successful micro-celebs are those prepared to grovel to get the men with cameras to notice them. It is a visual easy lay, "putting out" for the lensmen.

For other women in public life, the cult of the micro-celeb has moved the goalposts. Looking sexy is looking suspect. This is great for politicians; remember how the press used to fuss

about Shirley Williams's messy hair and contrast that with the heroine status conferred now by Mo'Nawar's wig. Actresses, once the prime victims of photographic rape, are now able to send more subtle signals: Kristin Scott-Thomson and Sharon Stone are awesomely elegant, Nicole Kidman and Gwyneth Paltrow look pretty but funky. The winner of Monday's best actress award, Daniela Nardini, wore a slinky dress but chopped off most of her hair. Result — *nul pic*, but credibility intact.

The novelist A.N. Wilson this week gave Emma Thompson an epic slugging-off for appearing in a loose dress with bare feet at the Cannes Film Festival. In real life, not photographic neverland, Thompson is a breathtaking beauty and grovelling is not her style. Frankly, I would have thought an actress who didn't flash her bosom at Cannes deserved a medal.

Wilson was nearly as nasty about Thompson as *The Daily Telegraph* was about Kate Winslet when she went to the premiere of *Titanic* looking 10lb plumper than she does in the film — this being a newspaper happy to run features on the dangers of eating disorders. Grovelling is what they want; it makes them feel important, more important than young women in less than requisite attire who can run them off their own front pages any day. I don't believe Wilson got snapped at the British Library opening.

So what is the future? One micro-celeb "reporting" on the others every day in every newspaper? I think not. Surely the species will self-destruct soon. Meanwhile, I would hate to be an image guru at this point in media history. Beyond knickers, where can they go?

Why shouldn't art be a reflection of the Sol?

IT MAY not be art, but it's a very good joke. Fair enough, the story "Students blow grant on holiday" may not sound promising, but this was a stunt with attitude.

Critics — in the form of fellow students and lecturers — were invited to the opening of a sponsored exhibition (called, significantly, *Going Places*) and when they arrived they found the gallery empty except for a large jug of sangria and a drama student dressed as an air hostess; a sound system was beating out some flamenco. The critics were then herded on to a bus, driven to the nearby airport

and taken to the bar overlooking arrivals, where they witnessed the students marching past, brown from their week in the sponsored sun, laughing and waving souvenirs from the Costa del Sol. Now it transpires that they had really been to Scarborough; and the joke is better.

Then the students joined their critics, "explained" their stunt and sat around for a couple of hours pontificating on the Meaning of Art. Well, I'd like to think that that was all part of the same sardonic gibe. When one of the students claimed that its whole purpose was to "challenge people's

perception of art" and to widen the debate, and make people discuss what the limits of art might be, she was surely sending herself up.

The truth is that art students every day challenge our perception of art, and not necessarily on purpose. Far from feeling that they should have been in the studio assaulting innocent canvases, I rather feel art critics should be grateful for any enterprise that keeps them from painting.

So what if this is just a stunt? At least it shows wit. And that is something in even shorter supply than talent. The utter dreariness of the average art student lies in his or her plodding solemnity. Most end-of-year gallery notes read like the utterings of people in the final stages of delusional narcissism. The

Leeds students' holiday-as-performance-art exhibition isn't pretentious; it is sending up pretentiousness.

And how can mocking the critics be anything but a part of that? I love the idea of all those shocked people at the vernissage, expectantly, politely waiting for Art-with-a-capital-A, then having to change their expressions when they realised what had happened.

And when they were informed that art was exactly what they were looking at, did they worry that they were being had, or did they start nodding their heads wisely in art appreciation, in intellectually savouring mode, as might seem to be requested?

It's not very often that students, who now seem to be model little bourgeois, all after the same pair of trainers and the right insignia on their jeans back pocket, get to bite the hand that feeds them. We should be grateful, rather than petulant.

Besides, this is much better value than those exhibitions that boast an installation of public-hair clippings and then berate those who are shocked for their petit-bourgeois attitudes. If the point of an exhibition is to shock, then to mind the public responding on cue shows even more intellectual impoverishment than the exhibition in the first place.

The Leeds experiment isn't clogged with any of that high-minded hypocrisy. Yeah, yeah, it's a waste of money, and yeah, yeah, it's an abuse of trust. We can concur: it's irresponsible and unworthy of the High Seriousness of Art; but what do you want? These are students. You don't go to university to learn how to behave like a management trainee.

Nigella Lawson



Tough it out, please, you're a woman!

I WORRY, you know. What has been the point of female activism for the past God knows how many years if we choose to stay in the ghetto? No: we're doing more than that: we've glanced outside and skittered back in, quivering with our pretty and delicately honed sensitivity, changing the gates shut, and if not throwing away the key, then plunging it down our cleavages. I am woman: hear me mew.

The other day, Jeremy Paxman won an award for his aggressive interview with Michael Howard in which, with brilliant menace (and with journalistic justification, too, it should be said) he asked the same question 14 times. Joan Smith, the feminist commentator, criticises the award for its sexist focus on the macho. She's right, of course, to remind us that when women cut up rough we are not admired for our tenacity but criticised for our shrewishness. But I fear the implications of her criticism.

Women and men are different: that I don't deny. Nor do I feel it ignoble to try to enumerate and tentatively explore what those differences might be. That self-deluding I am not: I accept my own part.

my own guilt, in all this. But just as women, of Joan Smith's own generation indeed, insisted too long on the purely societal influences on these differences — gender being affirmed as nothing more than a cultural product, a feature of our conditioning — now we all harp on too much about how natural, ineluctable they are.

Of course, we are aided and abetted in all this by the fact that the cultural consensus appears to be behind us.

We're lulled into a sense of safety. Who wouldn't own up to being non-aggressive, a good listener, a caring person, a sensitive spirit or all those other serene virtues in which even contemporary femininity is seen to reside? Because we're patted on the back for being all these things, we lose sight of the fact that we are allowing ourselves to be fantastically confined thereby.

Women could easily, without being untrue to our natures, be just as aggressive as Jeremy Paxman. We are not all nice-nice-nice, so why do we pretend to be? If there is a difference, it is that we are hindered by our unhelpful desire to please. And that, though you may call me old-fashioned, I do believe is conditioning.

The truth is, you cannot be

aggressive or combative and hope to be liked for it at the same time. You may be, but you have to forget such weakling desires. The point about Paxman is that he doesn't mind if someone doesn't like him for being rude.

We simply have to toughen up, as well. I don't want to see some glorified eternal-feminine school of interviewing or journalism emerge. I just want us to be able to do what needs to be done, without worrying about what it says about us or our sex while we're doing it.

WHAT was that about history repeating itself in farce? The Royal Family, in an effort to boost its popular appeal, is to invite the television cameras in to film it at play. Do they never learn?

One person looking after the environment won't make much of an impact.

STOP!
Are you about to break the law by copying from this newspaper?

Under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, generally, it is unlawful to reproduce articles from newspapers without permission even if only for internal management purposes. To make copies legally, your organisation must get a licence from the Newspaper Licensing Agency — set up to help you comply with the law quickly and easily.

You can obtain details of the licensing scheme and an application form by sending for a booklet. For your copy, simply contact the Newspaper Licensing Agency at Lonsdale Gate, Lonsdale Gardens, Tambridge Wells, Kent TN1 1NL or telephone 01892 525273, fax 01892 525275, email copy@nla.co.uk.

But if we all get together, we can make a difference. That's what Going for Green is all about.

We've got the whole world in our hands. But what state will it be in when we pass it on to our children? How do we keep the best and change the rest?

The most effective thing you can do is follow the Green Code. You can do this by supporting the Going for Green Campaign. Get involved. Have a smacking time at the bottle bank. Flick those smudged lights off. Get green fingers in the garden. Get in time with your car. The code highlights mistakes, easy ways for you to do your bit. And if you, and everyone reading this follows the Green Code — together, we'll make a world of difference.

Ring the changes. Call for your free Green Code information pack.

Follow the Green Code and you can make a difference.

Going for Green
Making a world of difference together.

DETR
P.O. Box 2100, Manchester M60 3GN.
All calls charged at BT local rates.

Home Insurance
We guarantee
hard back.

British Gas
MANCHESTER
CALLS NOW FREE ON
0800 9 15 14 1

Move to
something bigger
With our low cost mortgage

ANYTIME BARN TO OPEN
MANCHESTER
From 10am to 5pm Saturdays
Full Monday opening hours
www.anytime.co.uk

Spin see
a flawe
first lad
lose he
balanc

Home Insurance
We guarantee
hard back.

British Gas
MANCHESTER
CALLS NOW FREE ON
0800 9 15 14 1

Move to
something bigger
With our low cost mortgage

ANYTIME BARN TO OPEN
MANCHESTER
From 10am to 5pm Saturdays
Full Monday opening hours
www.anytime.co.uk

لقدنا من الاصل

Spin sees a flawed first lady lose her balance

Sara Netanyahu is under fire from an unlikely quarter, writes Tunku Varadarajan

Picture this make-believe scenario. Peter Mandelson grants an interview to an American reporter who is writing a detailed profile of Tony Blair, to be published to coincide with a state visit to Washington. Talking on the record — and with total candour — the Prime Minister's pet spin-master describes Mr Blair's wife Cherie as careerist, pushy, interfering and unhelpful.



The Netanyahu family

Would there be an almighty uproar? You can bet your very last euro there would. And would Mr Mandelson be skewered? Ceremonially, over the hottest of coals, in the Tower of London.

Now cut to Israel and observe a real tempest, set off by one of the closest aides to Benjamin "Bibi" Netanyahu, the country's Prime Minister, in an interview with *The New Yorker* magazine.

The aide is David Bar-Illan, on whom Mr Netanyahu relies as closely as Mr Blair does on Mr Mandelson. In the interview, done as part of a cover story on the Israeli Prime Minister published to coincide with his visit to New York, Mr Bar-Illan spoke frankly — too frankly, perhaps — about his boss's troublesome wife. (Irascible, impatient and occasionally undignified, the first lady is regarded by many Israelis as the first millstone.)

This is what Mr Bar-Illan said of Sara Netanyahu: "Look, Sara is not the most stable woman in the world... now she only appears at the appropriate things, receptions for children, things for the retarded, or the disadvantaged. And it works. Finally it's become boring to Israelis. Had she run half-naked

through the streets, it might have been something else, but it's under control."

Mr Bar-Illan, not surprisingly, has had to deny that he said any such thing to *The New Yorker's* reporter, the incisive David Remnick. He wants to keep his job. Mr Netanyahu, for the moment, appears unperturbed. Yesterday, he said: "I don't respond to any gossipy stories. And in any case, David Bar-Illan denied saying it."

Israel is agog, however, and not a soul would appear to be convinced by Mr Bar-Illan's pro forma denial. The author of the piece — a journalist who enjoys the highest reputation for integrity and analysis — has defended the accuracy of his quotes. He says that Mr Bar-Illan spoke "on the record" and saw that his comments were taken down on a notepad. Remnick's portrayal of Mr



Despite her unpopularity, the latest comments about Sara Netanyahu have caused a storm in Israel

Netanyahu was deeply unflattering. Stylishly written and observed, it was nonetheless a hatchet job.

Speaking of the difficult job of defending a Prime Minister with "ultra-secular habits" — which include a public admission of adultery — to the ruling party's ultra-Orthodox voters, Mr Bar-Illan said: "Finessing his being secular was nothing compared to other things, like adultery."

"One thing is to have an affair with a shiksa [a Gentile] — but a married woman! Now Bibi'll go to synagogue on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, maybe he's gone to the Western Wall, or he'll say the phrase 'with God's help'. But he's not fooling anyone."

But the remark about Mrs Netanyahu — "Look, Sara is not the most stable woman in the world" — has made the biggest splash of all.

One prominent New York Jewish figure, unwilling to be identified, said of Mr Bar-Illan: "I am truly aghast. Surely he will have to find another job now." Another well-known personality commented: "This would be funny if it wasn't such a betrayal of trust. Netanyahu can't keep that man on his staff any longer."

However, the first lady has for long been a figure of fun to her compatriots, even to those who vote for her husband. The country's tabloids have accused her of everything from plagiarism at university to being a woman freakishly obsessed with "cleanliness".

Soon after her husband took office in 1996, not one but two nannies came forward and said that working for her was akin to being "enslaved".

In June last year, the first lady treated Israel to a particularly frenzied spectacle, raising real questions for the first time about her mental equilibrium. Incensed by what she regarded as aggressive questioning by a television reporter, she threw a major tantrum on camera, lashing out at Israeli MPs and the wife of the former Prime Minister, Shimon Peres.

Asked about her husband's marital infidelities, she spat: "If you want me to say that anyone who cheats is scum, I say anyone who cheats is scum."

"But what do you want from my husband? You know how many people tried to put the moves on me and how many of them were from the Knesset? Why is it that when Shimon Peres travels to New York, you don't ask whom he is going to see? Because Sonia Peres is not educated, and she washes dishes and plays cards — that doesn't mean I also have to do that."

The tapes were never broadcast, but their contents inevitably leaked out.

Mr Bar-Illan's loose-tongued remarks to *The New Yorker* are now just as fully in the public domain. And Israelis are smacking their lips in anticipation of the next instalment of wife strife for Bibi.

Skin cure that knocks spots off the competition

IF YOU listen carefully you may hear the screams of thousands of British blackheads being ripped out by the roots. It's war on a grand scale and the weapon — a small grass-seeking sticky strip — has become the best-selling skincare product in every country it has been launched, including Japan, America and now Britain.

Like any war, it ain't pretty. Americans organise nose-stripping competitions, where blackhead-studded strips are judged to see who has reaped the more grisly harvest, and last month shoplifters stole 360 boxes worth £600 from a supermarket in Singapore.

The demand is such that only two months after the Biore Pore Perfect Cleansing Strips were launched in Britain last October, an airlift had to be organised to jet extra supplies in from America.

By the new year it had become the biggest selling skincare product in the history of Boots. Biore is the market leader, and its Japanese parent company Kao first launched the strip in Japan in 1996, where it sold \$750 million (£450 million) in its first year. Not surprisingly, other companies are queuing up to go head to head with Biore in what has become the multimillion-pound battle of the nose.

In America, Pond's Clear Pore Strips are the Number Two bestselling skincare products, and in Britain both Boots and SmithKline Beecham have launched similarly savage assaults on black spots.

The idea is not new, many women admit to experiments with Sello tape. The development is that the strip is designed to suck only to blackheads and not to skin. You place the strip on a damp nose and wait while the paper crusts and hardens. The faint-hearted should white away the next ten minutes with a stiff drink. For those who may lose their nerve, there is a reassuring note on the packet on how to back out by running your nose under the cold tap. Steedier types will

now be ready to let rip. Some people's blackheads are more noscumbent than others, and in informal polls men seem to reap more than women.

"I was disappointed when I first tried it. Just one blackhead and a shiny red nose," says one anonymous user. "But then I tried it on my boyfriend and got loads."

Terence Kealey, a Cambridge biochemist and Addenbrooke's consultant chemical pathologist, has gone fearlessly into the war on blackheads. He has pioneered the technology to grow blackheads in test tubes on skin left over from facelifts. During his research, he developed a theory about the evolutionary reason for what seems like a malicious blight on youth: acne may have evolved to make young people less attractive and thus offer less of a threat to the estab-

lished adults. In any event, his test-tube pores are advancing research into the exact cause of blackheads. Acne is a disease of the pores. In its severe form, the pores disintegrate and grease packed with bacteria seeps into the skin," he says. "In its mild form the cells that line the pores proliferate too much, and this causes blackheads."

"Nose strips pull out the central core of the blackhead, including a significant amount of abnormal cells."

However, many doctors advise caution. Using a strip may be acceptable for cosmetic purposes but it does not treat the fundamental causes of blackheads, says Dr Thomas Stamford.

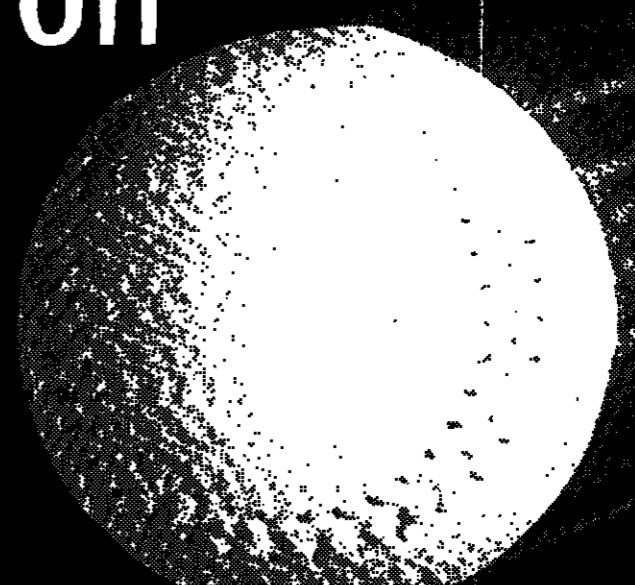
"The basic cause of acne is related to testosterone. In both men and women. By pulling out blackheads you are treating the symptoms only. It's not fundamental in the way that antibiotics or vitamin A derivatives can be."

Almost as fast as you can strip them off, the blackheads will return. Which is of course every company's dream market: desperate and endlessly renewable.

HELEN RUMBELOW

'A strip for removing a blackhead is now a skincare bestseller'

Catch our 2% discount on Personal Loans*



For a limited period we are cutting our Personal Loan rates by a staggering 2%. So now is a good time to plan for that new car, book a holiday or even clear your credit card debts.

For example

Amount of loan	36 monthly repayments	Total payable	APR
£5,000	£102.49	£3,669.64	16.9%
			14.9%
£6,000	£202.41	£7,256.76	15.9%
			13.9%

And what's more, a NatWest Personal Loan offers:

- Quick and easy application process
- Loans for almost any purpose
- No arrangement fee
- No security required
- Interest rate is guaranteed not to rise for the entire life of the loan.

Don't miss out - Call now

0800 24 34 06

MONDAY to FRIDAY 9am to 8pm
or SATURDAY 9am to 6pm
Or pop into any NatWest branch.

*Our loans between £2,100 and £7,100. Discount is available on loans applied for between 16:30 Mon-1:30pm.

NatWest
More than just a bank

Credit is only available to persons aged 18 or over and is subject to status and conditions. Written quotations are available on request from National Westminster Bank Plc, Registered Office: 41 Lothbury, London, EC2P 2BP. Registered Number: 929027, or from any NatWest branch. In order to maintain a high level of service, calls may be monitored and recorded. Ref. No. 50210

Home Insurance.
We guarantee 1/3rd back.

Whatever you're paying to insure your home at the moment, British Gas Home Insurance will guarantee* to give you 1/3rd back. For high quality cover that's tailored to suit your needs exactly, call us today quoting the 1/3rd back code below and see how much you can save - there's no need to wait for renewal.

British Gas Home Insurance
An idea you'll want to

CALL US NOW FREE ON 0800 9 15 14 13

Please remember to have your current insurance documents to hand. Loans open 8.00am-02.00pm weekdays, 9.00am-02.00pm Saturdays. *1/3rd. Offer subject to change without notice. Excludes fire, flood and conditions available on request. 1/3rd back code: TBNA

Move to something bigger.
With our low cost mortgage rate.

- It's easy to transfer.
- Our mortgage rate is 8.2% APR variable.
- Call us now for more details.

DIRECTLINE

0181 649 9099 LONDON
0161 831 9099 MANCHESTER
0141 221 9099 GLASGOW

CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday.
Bank Holiday Monday opening hours 8am to 6pm.
www.directline.co.uk Please quote ref. TT135

100.

FreeCall 0800 056 8182
What can we do for you?

CABLE & WIRELESS

Evening 6 Mon-Fri 18.00-08.00. All information services as at 1st May 1998 and applicable to residential customers only. Service available only to serviceable locations. Applications subject to status. Service, prices and savings subject to change. All prices include VAT. For quality of service purposes we may occasionally monitor or record your telephone calls on Cable & Wireless Call Centres.

Mussolini makes a comeback

We are all closet corporatists now, says John Ralston Saul

Truth is back — those sweeping truths characteristic of the great religions, of Marxism, and fascism. In other words, ideology is back. And superstition. After all, what is superstition but believing without understanding? As Mussolini put it: "The crowd doesn't have to know. It must believe."

The return of inevitability to public affairs has been one of the great surprises of our time. Public policy is no longer about choice but about the micro-management of what is going to happen anyway.

Today the elite itself is expected to believe with the fervour of the crowd. The natural balance of the marketplace and the inevitability of globalisation on its own terms must be taken as absolutes by anyone, from new Labourites to neo-conservatives, who doesn't want to be marginalised. Yet neither the marketplace nor globalisation rings true as our real ideology.

After all, if we believe in such things as the beneficial powers of competition, then why has no one across the political spectrum protested against the growing wave of large corporate mergers? The unleashed global marketplace was supposed to produce more competition, not less.

The real ideology of our day began with Napoleon

And every analysis shows that the larger the corporation, the less efficient it is. These are the mergers of a fearful technocracy attempting to transform the marketplace into a bureaucratic certainty — and the lack of protest is reminiscent of the old Marxists, who were always in that interim phase necessary to bring about their Utopia.

Even stranger is our religious approach towards privatisation. Selling off public enterprises is supposed to improve them by introducing competition. And by reducing government, we are meant to unleash the economy. Handled moderately, you can understand these arguments. Used as abstract absolutes, they make bad economies.

Although the money markets today are gigantic, they are largely made up of speculative capital or money for the private technocracy to play around with in their mergers and acquisitions. There is a great shortage of real investment capital. It needs to be concentrated on real new investment if we want real growth. Instead, through massive privatisation, we have been draining that small pool by investing it in the gigantic, infrastructure-heavy, already developed public sector. In other words, massive privatisation slows down the marketplace. And it rewards the failure of the private technocracy to act as capitalists.

Instead we have encouraged them in their delusions by handing them coupon-clipping activities as the heads of heavy, naturally monopolistic infrastructures. These are not capitalists. They are managers in capitalist dress.

The real ideology of our day is not competition or the marketplace or globalisation, but an old-fashioned global

theory called corporatism. We are now experiencing its fourth attack on Western society. The first came with Napoleon: the last version of corporatism was Mussolini's. Strip away the violence, racism and uniforms of the regimes of the 1920s and 1930s, and you find arguments which today are seen as respectable.

The idea of society has been replaced by a multiplicity of interest groups and special interests. Our primary loyalties are to those groups. The whole structure is run through constant negotiations within and between the groups — all based on self-interest. Efficiency, professionalism and loyalty are the characteristics most talked about and in theory rewarded.

The idea of the public good is marginalised. And democracy continues more as a steam-release device than anything else. The most we can hope for is the human face of neo-conservatism, à la Clinton or Blair. The responsible individualism of those inside the elites is if anything more castrated than elsewhere in the population. As a result, there is a growing atmosphere of courtierism in our cities; a worship of form over content; a disturbing mix of arrogance and self-loathing.

You can see this in the sort of educational reform being proposed in most Western countries. Much of what is proposed is a century out of date and reflects the old, 19th-century capitalist prejudices: business involvement in setting the educational agenda; highly "practical" training at a young age as possible; getting "them" out into the workplace as fast as possible.

All of this represents the obsessions of the business schools, which have not changed their fundamental ideas since Harvard was created earlier in this century.

This whole approach is based on an average life expectancy of 50 years and slow technological change. In today's continual technological revolution, an education centred on practical training is a preparation for rapid obsolescence. Independent, flexible thought will be the key to survival.

Worse still, this approach ignores a 50 per cent increase in life expectancy. Education needs to be completely rethought to deal with our new long lives. There is no rush to get people into the workforce. There is time for a wider-based education. We cannot afford early retirement in the long term and its waste of accumulated experience.

There is now ample time for the sort of citizen-participation which our corporatist society has marginalised. We need to be rethinking not only the relative speeds of the phases in our lives, but their respective order and lengths. In a sense, what we need to do is to take five to ten years off the last third of that process, and put it into the first part of our lives.

The author's latest book, *The Unconscious Civilisation*, is published by Penguin.

Our esteemed Foreign Secretary takes an away-day...



"TELL ME, IS THE LABEL ATTACHED TO HIM OR HIS LUGGAGE?"

No surrender on Friday

A Yes vote won't be the end of Unionism, just a bid for survival

Ulster will fight and Ulster will be right. The old Unionist slogan remains the authentic cry of Europe's embattled regions. In the 1920s, Ulster's Unionists were defying their inclusion in an independent Ireland. They won. This Friday they face what they see as the same foe. It is an awesome one.

They face an American President who claims to be an Irish Protestant and invokes his daughter, Chelsea, against them. They face Tony Blair and his semi-permanent showbusiness court, packing Belfast's Waterfront Hall. They see the IRA playing moderate and conning the British into releasing killers on their streets, while a new generation takes up the bombing. To cap it all, these cunning Londoners split the Unionist tribe with bribes and tortures worthy of the Borgias.

The Unionist answer to all this is easy. They defy the world. They remember the glories of King Billy and of Carson's great struggle. They thrill to the banners of the Boyne and the piercing flutes of the Shankill and revel in minority. The fight is not for what is right but for group survival. Unionists must fight for their covenant to land, leased from the Lord's anointed, the British Crown. They will fight for ever.

Yet can any sensible person really advocate a "no" vote on Friday? According to the "yes" lobby, theirs is the cause of peace, so "no" must be for war. Such is the dumbing down of referendums. "Yes" campaigners claim that concord between the communities is real and must not be lost. The bulk of militant nationalism has turned away from killing and sought negotiation. By accepting the declaration, Sinn Féin/IRA has renounced violence and committed itself to a government of the North. Irish political gangsterism is entering a more mature, perhaps more dormant period, even if some Young Turks cut loose.

The "yes" campaign points out that Ulster has tasted a calm it has not seen for a quarter of a century. The barriers are down, the patrols have retreated, the wall of sirens fallen still. Belfast and Londonderry are enjoying the same subsidised prosperity of other depressed British cities. The time has come to put political flesh on these bones, to give Northern Ireland back its self-rule. The Good Friday deal is signed by all "sides" of the community. It is

respectability for Ulster, regional autonomy with just a coating of North-South co-operation.

To be sure, says this side, power-sharing may not have worked before, but the new Stormont assembly and executive meet in a new climate of co-operation. When David Trimble and John Hume can stand shoulder to shoulder, albeit at a Blair rock concert, there is hope. In the cause of hope, the past must be shelved. Peace is always a compromise, but Friday should mark the first fruits of compromise. It is a huge step forward.

To the "no" camp this is all rose-tinted candyfloss. The Good Friday package was the product of deal-hungry, egotistical statesmen. They arrived one day with cameras and cardboards of fudge, though they could resolve three centuries of conflict in a single night, then floated away to the Middle East on clouds of dry ice. A measure of their flakiness was the lunatic decision to let convicted killers out of prison before rather than after the referendum.

Stick to the facts, says the "no" campaign. The deal is the Unionist nightmare scenario. Successive pledges to Unionism, reiterated by Mr Blair last year, granted the majority a right of veto on Irish reunification. This right was absolute but always vulnerable to a trick, a ruse, a duplicitous question that might split the Unionist vote and give the nationalist enemy a foot in the door. To the "no" campaign, Friday's referendum is precisely that trick. It would let nationalists block any Unionist majority in a new Stormont assembly. It would give Cabinet posts to IRA men, despite their having less than 20 per cent of the vote.

This assembly would defer in part to an all-Ireland executive, and could not operate without that deference. This constitutes a classic "first step" on the road to reunification. Read *The Irish Times* each day this week: every article says the same. Ulster fought this trick in 1690, 1921, 1974

and since. Now is no time to go wobbly.

To those who have lived with IRA violence for three decades, Good Friday was not a treaty but a surrender. The nationalists have conceded next to nothing, yet have been granted both an entrenched role in government and their dearest wish, a constitutional bond with the South. More alarming, the militant wing of nationalism, Sinn Féin/IRA, has been granted a share too, while demanding and being granted the release into the community of some of Europe's most psychopathic killers.

Never was violence more richly rewarded or order more scandalously defied.

These killers will be released — not to beat about the bush — without any real disarmament, while their former leaders will sit as

ministers. Is this conceivable anywhere else in Europe? To add insult to injury, the Secretary of State, Mo Mowlam, seems to think that by releasing loyalist killers, she somehow balances the book. This treats the citizens of Ulster as savages for whom tribal loyalties matter more than the law.

As for suffering the condemnation of the world, the "no" campaign is untroubled. For years the IRA has exercised a de facto right of veto on any deal not to its liking, by threatening a return to violence. Why should the Unionists not enjoy a similar veto, when exercised through the ballot? If the IRA returns to the gun because it has not got its way, that is not the fault of Unionism.

Is there any synthesis between these two positions? On the surface not. Irresistible force has faced immovable object for so long in Ulster that both sides have defined themselves into magnetic repulsion. As I read the assembly constitution, it is a recipe for further antagonism. It will not lead to more stable local government but to anger, walkout and eventual immobility. That is because Stormont is an inappropriate tier of democratic participation, a museum

of tribal malcontents with reason always at a discount. As often rehearsed in this column, the proper tier for devolution is lower, to counties and cities. No amount of sweet talk, razzmatazz, waffle and fudge can pretend otherwise: this deal offers a return to Britain's worst gift to Belfast, "a power-sharing executive at Stormont."

Yet the fact that the Good Friday deal will, in my view, eventually collapse is not sufficient reason for a "no" on Friday. Indeed, it could even be a reason for voting "yes". A "no" vote, even a partial "no", might not be a catastrophe. I doubt if the IRA would return to outright violence, nor would negotiations on devolved government grind to a halt. They might even prove more realistic, brokered locally "from the ground up" and free of the distorting mirrors of glamour and diplomacy. But a "no" vote would fracture the present coalition. It would jeopardise the sense of reconciliation which is palpable to any visitor to Belfast. It would be a slap in the face to those who have battled for peace and a disaster for local morale.

Some more sensible plan than that yielded by Good Friday must emerge. This will only be on the back of local consent to the process that is already under way. A deep split in Unionism on Friday will make that majority more insecure and frightened, and less ready to compromise. The road to stability in Ulster this past three years has been well trodden. Just as a "no" vote is not the end of peace, so a "yes" vote is not the end of Unionism. It would mark merely another round in the survival game.

The embattlement of the North cannot go on for ever. Any move towards ice-breaking is thus better than none. Stormont will not work, but from the attempt to make it work may come a better understanding of what might work, a more practical pattern of local devolution and more realistic relations with the South. From Ulster's crooked timber, no straight thing will ever be made. But a system of local government that can bend to the pressures of a torn community must one day emerge.

Whatever their motives, good people have given Northern Ireland their best endeavours this past year. Many Unionists may regard Friday's proposals as flawed. But they are not worthless. However messy the approval, Ulster needs a "yes".

Alan Coren



Showtime in the garden of earthy delights

What is today? No gardener need ask. He has been dreaming of this day ever since this day last year. It is the biggest day in the horticultural calendar. Today is the opening day of the Crickwood Flower Show.

Thrill lifts the visitor's soul from the very moment when, shouldering ajar the magnificent wrought-iron gate and lurching on to a flagstone terrace of such ingenious undulations that its terracotta pots will spontaneously rearrange their positions in even the lightest breeze, he finds himself surrounded by what, though a scant 200ft in perimeter, may well be the greatest variety of fencing in Europe: featherboarding, wattle, asymmetric planks, hardboard panels, chicken wire, all cleverly punctuated by sections of what might once have been wall.

The same cunningly insouciant landscaping has gone into the trelliswork that tops parts of the enclosure: visitors will note that there is not only square trellis and triangular trellis, but also attractive combinations of the two, many tied to one another with up to six different varieties of string or flex, and not a few lying with unaffected casualness on the earth beneath to facilitate what is obviously the Head Gardener's novel use of honeysuckle and clematis as ground cover.

Once recovered from this splendour, the visitor would be wise to seek out the magnificent Sucker Garden, with its breathtaking wealth of such lovely old friends as *Ena Harkness Sucker*, *Boule de Neige Sucker* and, of course, the Queen Mother's favourite, *Peace Sucker*. And this year, for the first time, the Head Gardener is showing the very rare *Dorothy Perkins Climbing Sucker*, now so far up a pear tree that it might have been designed to complement as gorgeous a display of leaf-curl as one could ever hope to enjoy.

The leaf-curl is nothing, mind, to what can be savoured in the nearby Pest Pavilion. Now situated in the Old Greenhouse, which last year's visitors may remember as the New Greenhouse, the display, thanks to a clement winter, boasts a wealth of new exhibits, including Solomon's Leafhopper (rarely seen outside the smarter zoos), a colony of Earwigs capable of eating 30 wallflowers an hour, two regiments of Capsid Bugs and a commune of Sawflies which, while waiting for the roses outside to reach succulence, may be heard keeping their molars in trim by filing through what is left of the Old Greenhouse strutwork.

Visitors should be warned that last year's Best of Show favourites, the Red Spider Mites, are back in force and twice the size: do not, therefore, remain stationary for more than ten seconds, since shoes represent a challenge to which this plucky little omnivore is never slow to rise! Instead, pass on quickly to the handsome Black Spot display, this year attractively interplanted with *Scab*, *Powdery Mildew* and pretty clumps of that hardy perennial, *Bacterial Canker*.

Emerging from the Pest Pavilion, taking care to step over what appears to be a draught excluder but is in fact Britain's largest slug, observe that there seems to be something growing in the renowned Crickwood Gouseberry Arbour. On one of the sturdy twigs are three little green things, only two of which have legs. Since the two with legs have not attacked the thing without legs, the Head Gardener is of the opinion that this is quite possibly a rare pest-resistant species which might well swell into a major berry later in the season. Either that, or it is a third thing with legs which is either (a) sleeping, and has folded its legs underneath, or (b) dead, and its legs have shrivelled off. Visitors are respectfully requested not to poke it.

Let them instead turn their attention to the justly renowned bonsai display of Dwarf Sycamores, situated on the New Lawn, which replaces the Old Lawn, dug up last year because it had Dwarf Sycamores growing on it, or to the Ornamantal Pond, or to the Rockery of the Dead, or to the intriguing *Guess The Poison Exhibition*, created in an inspired moment by the Head Gardener when he shelved the bottles beneath the only hole in the shed roof large enough to admit the exact quantity of rain required to stuce labels off.

And let them further note that the Crickwood Flower Show will run until this weekend. Unless, of course, it dies first.



Hot inspiration: Kathy Lette

Whip contains enough filth to fill a Jilly Cooper novel. Now one of its guardians is tempted to let the public have a browse. Sir Alastair Goodlad, John Major's Chief Whip during his final scandal-ridden years, plans to knock out a book: "I know where all the bodies are buried," he says. Only a combination of loyalty to Major, who rewarded Goodlad with a knighthood, and not operate without that deference. This constitutes a classic "first step" on the road to reunification. Read *The Irish Times* each day this week: every article says the same. Ulster fought this trick in 1690, 1921, 1974

depends on how bad-tempered I get." William Hague, contemplating sacking Goodlad from the Shadow Cabinet, might find a reason to keep the chap busy.

St James's Piccadilly, home of the "Red Pastor" Donald Reeves, is safe from slipping back into its stuffy old ways in his retirement. Reeves, who hugged trees and allowed his chapel to be used by the *London Gay Symphony Orchestra*, is to be replaced by *Mary Robins* until a successor is found. She has held the occasional rave service in her time, as well as holding forums on the link between eroticism and faith.

have all these cravings but cannot blame my hormones," she concludes, before summoning my young butler Edward for cocktails.

ROMANCE being a tricky affair in Japan, singles now carry love detectors called "Lovegeys" that beep when their owner passes a member of the opposite sex equipped with another device. When harmony reigns, they flash green. They should stick to arranged marriages...

JASPER GERARD

Memory loss

THE man appointed by the Government to investigate the arms-to-Africa affair has been in trouble with MPs before. Sir Thomas Legg, whom Robin Cook assures us will conduct an impartial inquiry, had to admit to MPs in 1993 that he had given an incorrect answer to the Public Accounts Committee that "blocked" the committee in its inquiries.

Sir Thomas was dragged back by MPs to explain himself when Robert MacLennan, the Liberal Democrat MP, told him that his admission was "astounding". With heavy irony, MacLennan asked him why it had "slipped his memory" to give the correct answer. He had been asked at the initial session whether judges had complained about cuts in legal aid. Legg said they had not, even though he had received a letter from Lord Taylor of Gosforth, then Lord Chief Justice, and Sir Thomas Bingham, then Master of the Rolls, protesting.

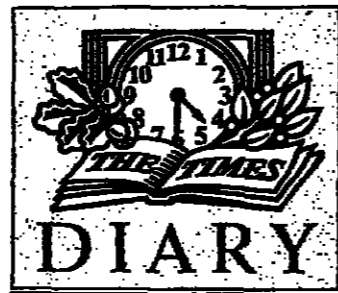
Legg claimed that he did not see these protests as "very germane". The Labour MP Terry Davis then asked Legg if he and his colleagues were suffering from "collective amnesia". To this, Sir Thomas, as

if inspired by Lord Armstrong of Ilminster or Yes Ministers Sir Humphrey, replied: "Collective amnesia" was "astonishing". Cook and Blair have little to fear. I fear.

TIGGY LEGGE-BOURKE has a liberal attitude to education. The former royal nanny took Prince William and some of her friends to Mirabelle, a swish joint in London co-owned by Marco Pierre White, for lunch last Wednesday, while his fellows skulked back at Eton. "They phoned next day and said how much they had enjoyed themselves," says a flunky. "They promised to come back."

Some buddy

FLATMATES make dangerous biographers, as Dustin Hoffman must now appreciate. Robert Duvall, who starred in *Apocalypse Now*, has been talking about his old friend. Duvall suggests that Hoffman delowered the daughter of an American presidential candidate on the sofa of a friend's flat in Los Angeles. If it were a Nixon or a Carter, he would not disclose. "Dustin went out with whoever he



wanted," he says. "I don't know what his secret was." Lucky Chelsea is safe at university.

AND he seemed like such a nice boy. Jason Donovan, once the clean-cut kid from *Down Under*, now whiles away those tricky years before middle age acting as a suspender-clad transvestite in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. And what a horror the first night proved. As he staggered across the stage in stilettos and his spaceship blasted off into the heavens, the backdrop came crashing down amid a flood of sparks. The cardboard sets of Ransay Street were never this dangerous.

In the black

THE "little black book" of secrets kept by the Government Chief



Rocky horror: Jason Donovan



TRIMBLE'S HURDLE

The Yes campaign in Ulster faces a tough percentage game

Majority rule may have been an historic aspiration in former colonies but in Ulster it has acquired a bad name. The entrenched Unionist majority at Stormont from 1922 to 1972 earned a reputation for discrimination which supporters of the Union have subsequently found difficult to shake off. Although the extent of real economic discrimination during that period has been exaggerated, one-party rule is never healthy.

The agreement which will be voted on this Friday has been designed to ensure that decisions can be taken in a new assembly only if they are supported by 60 per cent of both Unionists and nationalists. Yet the agreement itself, technically, depends on a simple majority of those voting. If, however, it is to stand any chance of succeeding over time then the threshold of support required is significantly higher. Before Tony Blair can crack open the Bushmills this weekend he needs something more solid than the simple majority which sustained Stormont.

The Prime Minister's energy in pursuit of a referendum victory cannot be faulted. All other business has been put on hold. The sceptics on whom he has lavished his attention are, overwhelmingly, Unionists. The disturbing spectacle of the Balcombe Street gang hailed as heroes by the Sinn Fein conference earlier this month crystallised concern that the price of the agreement would be liberty for unrepentant terrorists. The failure of the agreement to stipulate suitably tough and precise decommissioning conditions fuelled fears that paramilitaries could take their place in the Province's executive while their comrades remained armed in the field. Those concerns have contributed to a sense of momentum behind the "no" campaign.

In contrast, the Unionist "yes" campaign has lacked simple tunes to which its supporters can march. It acquired an extra

resonance last night when the Unionist leader David Trimble shared a stage with the SDLP leader John Hume and young pop musicians to solicit support for the agreement. But it is a moot point whether mixing in such company will reassure the doubters in his own ranks. By asking the electorate to vote "yes", lest terror resume, the campaigners imply that the commitment to peace on the part of the paramilitaries is a fragile thing. Mr Trimble, as we argued last month, is in a similar position to John Major after signing the Maastricht treaty. He has to persuade his supporters to accept the agreement on the grounds that it is far from ideal but it could have been worse. Such prudence may be commendable, but it is the solvent of passion. Thus Mr Trimble's case has not had the anticipated impact.

Mr Trimble has indicated that 70 per cent of those voting must say "yes" before he can feel confident that the agreement commands sufficiently broad Unionist support. Around 40 per cent of the Ulster electorate is nationalist or republican, some 52 per cent vote for Unionist parties and 8 per cent support the gently pro-Union but non-sectarian Alliance Party. If, as expected, nine out of ten nationalists who vote say "yes", and they are joined by the Alliance, then 44 per cent is assured.

The reason why 70 per cent has the significance it does is that it marks the point where half the explicitly Unionist electorate have said "yes". If the principle which will apply in the assembly, the rule which requires 60 per cent support from nationalists and Unionists, is applied to the referendum, then 75 per cent must vote "yes". It is a high hurdle. But a process which has been driven by those with the support of less than a fifth of the electorate must be able to secure the assent of those who have only raised their voices in anger.

SECOND FRONT

Hague widens and deepens his stand on monetary union

All wars, Napoleon once argued, are won not by size of army or scale of armory but choice of terrain. William Hague acknowledged the influence of this great European unifier in his choice of address to the INSEAD Business School yesterday.

Last November, the Conservative leader offered the CBI an astute analysis of the economic dangers that monetary union would create. He chose to broaden that message yesterday in a speech which centred on the constitutional and political ramifications of the euro. His text had been anticipated by Kenneth Clarke who predicted "another outburst" and cautioned against opposition to a process of integration that was "inevitable in the modern world". The battle-lines within and beyond the Conservative Party are being drawn again.

Mr Hague's text was elegant and well-made. He noted that the European Union was set on autopilot towards an agenda of a single state devised 40 years ago and shaped by the aftermath of 1945. He gave warning that the consequence of EMU's failure would not be a return to square one but the collapse in credibility of the entire European ideal. He also put forward an alternative agenda based on the rapid incorporation of Central and Eastern European nations within the EU and expanded links with the United States. He said, correctly, that a "Little Europe" is an unattractive vision as "Little England". A positive Conservative case on Europe's future is emerging.

This is the territory where Mr Hague must place his troops. It is important that the economic arguments against EMU are expressed forcefully. The strategy of the single currency's advocates, however, is already clear. They intend to run a campaign based on economic fear and political resignation. They will claim lower interest rates if Britain

participates and (despite the experience of the ERM) mass unemployment if she does not. This is a case of contestable truth in the short-term and utter irrelevance compared with the long-term effects of unilateral economic disarmament. It will also be said that, whatever the electorate may wish, the outcome is inevitable. The British people can make any choice that they want provided that the answer is "yes".

The hired guns of big business, lead by Lord Sainsbury of Turville and friends, will ensure that this prospectus, fraudulent though it is, will be at least partially effective. Despite the available evidence, the best that Conservatives and other supporters of sterling can reasonably hope is that this propaganda might be neutralised. This would best be done by an independent all-party organisation that was specifically designed for this task. Where Mr Hague and his party can make a real impact is in a different domain. To maximise their effect, they must constantly outline the constitutional costs and political pitfalls of monetary union for all Europe. In this sphere, the CBI holds scant authority.

Where Mr Hague has led, his party has the opportunity to follow. Mr Clarke contended that a more ambiguous line on the euro would "bring the Conservative Party back together again". This has the extraordinary implication that the Tories enjoyed a period of unity in the "wait and see" era. Over the next few weekends, Conservative activists will have the chance to endorse candidates for the European elections. They can reselect their existing MEPs — all of whom endorsed Mr Clarke in the leadership election last year — or choose others who back Mr Hague. That decision will help to determine whether fine words in France can be translated into action.

PAW MARKS

The sign of the cat does make Isas into piggy banks

The Government's plans for setting benchmark standards for the new individual savings accounts (Isas) suggest a well-justified lack of faith in the providers' willingness to offer savers the best possible deals. A Catmark, indicating that a savings product meets the Government's standards on costs, access and terms and conditions, will, according to Helen Liddell, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury, enable people to save "in the knowledge that they are not going to get ripped off."

This unministerial language indicates a belief that, without the discipline of Catmarks, the financial services industry would persuade the public to pay unnecessarily high fees for dud investments. That is the reputation the industry has brought upon itself. The enthusiasm with which it sold pensions to those who did not need them should not be forgiven. Only the determined efforts of the feisty Mrs Liddell forced the pensions mis-sellers to try to make amends. The scale of this is a compensation bill now heading towards £1 billion.

This Government is as wedded to the idea of encouraging the populace to save as Baroness Thatcher was to the concept of personal pensions. Ensuring that the savings industry provides a choice of low-cost, sensible first step

quite sophisticated, investors can find that the services of certain fund managers cost more than they generate. A Catmark would drive down charges from those who would cash in on the business that Isas will bring.

The danger, though, is that savers will read the Catmark as a Kitemark, a guarantee of safety, and ever-increasing returns. If that perception is allowed to prevail — and perish the thought that the purveyors of the products would ever allow such misunderstandings to go unchecked — the Government could find itself tarnished by another mis-selling scandal.

Although the approved product range is to be restricted, the equity funds will be as vulnerable as any un-Catmarked investment fund. The message that markets can go down as well as up is one which people tend to forget very easily. Index tracking funds, which the Government favours for Isas, cut out the excitement at either end of the spectrum and, over a reasonable timescale, can generally be relied upon to provide savers with a better rate of return than they would receive from a building society.

Not even Mrs Liddell, however, can guarantee that there will not be moments when the returns look dull, not to say disappointing. If the savings habit is to become ingrained, it is essential that people understand what they are doing with their

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Moral arguments of Ulster 'yes' vote

From Dr Roddy Cowie
Sir, Reports of the floundering "yes" campaign in Ulster fail to diagnose what seems from here to be a fundamental weakness — a fixation with arguments based on self-interest, which cedes the moral high ground. Dr Paisley's appeal is not simply emotional ("Ulster dinosaurs locks his teeth on peace accord", report, May 16); he and his allies are being allowed to present themselves as men of principle among the wheeler-dealers.

The focus on self-interest underestimates the Unionists I talk to. They judge the agreement in moral terms. They are constantly reminded of the moral case against it — it seems to condone violence, even to reward it. The "yes" campaign needs to be equally clear about the moral case for the agreement — it is about justice and tolerance, and people should vote for it because it is right.

Yours faithfully,
R. I. D. COWIE,
2 Rugby Street, Belfast BT7 1PX.
e.cowie@clara.net
May 17.

From Mr R. A. Darnley
Sir, Mr Blair, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, is leader of a party which prevents people from one part of that kingdom, Northern Ireland, from either joining or voting for it. The Labour Party.

When he repeatedly visits the Province to encourage people to vote "yes" for the referendum, what message does he imagine he gives those citizens wishing to remain part of the United Kingdom? When they are so clearly not wanted by his party, why should they trust his assurances that their interests will be protected in the legislation to be revealed, which will establish the Province's new political structure? Will those assurances be as valid as those on decommissioning given in earlier stages of the negotiations, which have conveniently been forgotten in the interest of expediency? If, like me, Mr Blair wants a "yes" vote, rather than waste his time visiting the Province again this week I would urge him to address the issues and publish in advance of the referendum the legislation that will set up the new structures. With such a badly worded, vague, incomplete and ambiguous document, on which to vote, it is hardly surprising that so many people are drifting away from the Good Friday agreement.

A declaration by the Prime Minister of his intention to allow the Labour Party to organise in Northern Ireland would also be a strong signal to those wavering.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT DARNLEY,
The Hill, 20 Holly Park Road,
Kilfinchy, Newtownards,
Co Down BT23 6SN.
May 17.

From Mr Edward W. Davis
Sir, I have just read Michael Gove's article regarding the adulation, given in Dublin on May 10 to the four Balcombe Street murderers set free as a condition of the Ulster peace agreement ("Nuremberg for the Nineties", May 12).

I was in Scott's Restaurant in Mayfair on November 12, 1975, when these men threw their bomb through the window. The place was packed. The bomb contained nails and steel balls, and I shall never forget the mayhem, the screaming and horror of it all. There were deaths and serious injuries and I was lucky to get out alive.

To think these men have been freed makes me think more of Munich than Nuremberg.

I have the honour to be,
Yours faithfully,
EDWARD W. DAVIS,
22 Hans Place, SW1X 0EP.
May 12.

From Mrs Mair Roberts
Sir, What possible justification can there be for the Prime Minister's decision to impose a 40 per cent majority in his workplace elections in brief, May 1; see also letter, May 18 when, in contrast to the 1979 referendum, it decided not to impose a 40 per cent threshold in the devolution referendum?

As a result, if the Government gets its "yes" vote a devolution, and a Welsh assembly is to be imposed on Wales on the strength of a water-thin majority.

An unequivocal government statement on the circumstances in which a 40 per cent threshold should be imposed is long overdue.

Yours sincerely,
MAIR ROBERTS,
13 Lon y Bryn,
Bangor, Gwynedd LL 57 2LD.
May 18.

From Mr Roger Palmer
Sir, Good for Ian Firth, the schoolboy bus collector (report and photograph, May 14). I hope that he will be old enough to enjoy driving it.

But the bus, described as found in a scrapyard in Kent, is only 14 years old and clearly is one-man-operated — the preferred method of most bus operators. Through its privatised operating companies London Transport is running conductor-operated Routemasters which are 40 years old.

There must be a lesson to be learned from the standard of quality and durability of the Routemasters — built specially for London Transport — and their more modern mass-produced brethren.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER PALMER,
Woodside,
Hearts oak Road,
Hawthurst, Kent TN18 5EU.
May 14.

Crossbench peers

From Lord Weatherill
Sir, I write to correct the assertion in your report (May 15) that a mass meeting of independent (crossbench) peers last Wednesday overwhelmingly rejected the Government's decision to remove hereditary peers from the House of Lords as a first step before proceeding to the second stage of reforms later.

In fact, a group of independent peers drafted and circulated a paper which opposed the idea of abolishing the legislative role of hereditary peers without formulating any ideas regarding the long-term composition of a Second Chamber. This paper was discussed at the meeting to which your report refers.

However, there was no attempt to ascertain by a vote, or by a show of hands or by any other means whether the paper commanded support. The paper was simply treated as a focal point for discussion.

Crossbench peers are totally independent members of the House of Lords. We are not a party and we do not adopt any sort of party line. There is never a "crossbench view" on any matter.

Yours faithfully,
WEATHERILL
(Convenor, Crossbench Peers),
House of Lords,
May 18.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Rights Bill's protection for religion

From Sir Timothy Hoare
Sir, Despite the Government's consultation with religious leaders, it will on Wednesday, May 20, seek to remove the safeguards for religious charities which were achieved by the Lords' amendments to the Human Rights Bill. Having consulted leading counsel, religious charities remain deeply concerned that they will face the risk of costly litigation to the detriment of the public good for which their organisations strive.

The Government claims that to remove the threat of litigation would necessarily violate the European Convention on Human Rights by according priority to a particular right. This claim is wrong. Similar protection already exists in other EU states where the Convention is part of domestic law. In any event no requirement exists to apply the Convention to religious charities at all. The Government is doing so by a wide definition of "public authority".

It is open to the Government, by choice, to protect from challenge actions taken by those organisations in accordance with their religious tenets. This is the very protection that it has now chosen to provide to religious schools but to deny to religious charities.

Yours sincerely,
TIMOTHY HOARE,
10 Belthia Villas,
Barnsburry, NI 1PD.
May 19.

From Rabbi Julia Neuberger
Sir, I believe that the Reverend David Holloway, when he argues in his letter of May 14 that "religious freedom is a serious constitutional issue" and, by implication, suggests that the Human Rights Bill does not protect such freedom, seriously misunderstands the nature of that protection.

The absolute need to protect religious freedom lies at the heart of the European Convention on Human Rights. Article 9 specifically guarantees the right to freedom of religion; Article 2 of the First Protocol provides

that the State shall respect the rights of parents to ensure that education and teaching conforms with their own religious and philosophical convictions; and Article 14 includes protection from discrimination on the grounds of religion. All of these provisions should be music to the ears of those in the churches and faith communities.

Meanwhile, in international human rights law, it is well established that the preservation of religious belief is considered an essential prerequisite for the maintenance of a genuinely pluralist society; as such, it is afforded the highest form of protection. The concerns of the churches and some of the other faith communities are therefore ill-founded. The Convention could not, and of course should not, interfere with the manifestations of the belief of religious institutions.

The Human Rights Bill, as originally proposed, is carefully balanced. It both promotes human rights and maintains parliamentary sovereignty. Parliament will still retain, as now, the ultimate responsibility for laws which govern the churches and faith communities when they act in their capacity as a public authority. If the proposed amendments are included in the Bill, its scheme will be fundamentally altered and its principles undermined.

The Human Rights Act, which incorporates the European Convention into UK law, is likely to be the defining piece of legislation for this Government. It would be a great pity to thwart its potential on the basis of a misplaced fear of human rights standards, particularly when we might expect religious bodies both to maintain the principle that human rights are inalienable and to welcome the ability, through their members, to lay claim for the first time to a right to manifest their religious beliefs against any possible encroachment of the State.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
JULIA NEUBERGER,
28 Regent's Park Road, NW1 7TR.
May 15.

Honour for Emperor

From Mr Peter B. Steghart
Sir, If the Duke of Edinburgh were to have reservations about the proposal to confer the Order of the Garter on Emperor Akihito of Japan (reports, May 13 and 14) they would be amply justified. What are the Queen and her ministers thinking of?

Whatever precedent there may be for conferring the Order of the Garter on a foreigner, it is surely appropriate only in those rare cases where such a person, or those he represents, has performed a truly exceptional service to the British nation. Certainly this is not the case here.

I do not seek to revive memories of the war. Clearly, modern-day Japanese people, including Emperor Akihito as an individual, had no part in it and should not be blamed for their fathers' atrocities. Nevertheless, the fact remains that British men and women, honourably doing their duty, suffered greatly and often unnecessarily at the hands of the Japanese.

If such honours are not to sink to the level of meaningless, rite, political gestures, devoid of any historic or

Referendum threshold

From Mrs Mair Roberts
Sir, Now that Anatole Kaletsky (article, May 12) and others have pointed out that Microsoft has fees of delay, perhaps I may venture to reveal another hitherto-heretical truth by saying that the Windows operating system, though it has made rich men of Bill Gates and many dealers, has provided few benefits to computer users.

Almost everything that can be done within Windows can be done faster and on less costly equipment using non-graphic operating systems such as DOS. Though some domestic users do benefit from Windows most business computing would be done more quickly and more cheaply without it.

Dealers cannot be expected to admit it, but most of the computing power and facilities sold in current PCs are required not to serve the user but to serve Windows itself.

To be fair to the suppliers, while uninformed victims queue up exclaiming, "Here is a blank cheque. I must have whatever is the latest thing", it would be asking too much of human nature not to oblige them by providing constantly changing "latest things".

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ROBERTS,
3 Elmwood Court,
Pershore Road, Birmingham B5 7PB.
May 15.

Route to posterity

From Mr Roger Palmer
Sir, Good for Ian Firth, the schoolboy bus collector (report and photograph, May 14). I hope that he will be old enough to enjoy driving it.

But the bus, described as found in a scrapyard in Kent, is only 14 years old and clearly is one-man-operated — the preferred method of most bus operators. Through its privatised operating companies London Transport is running conductor-operated Routemasters which are 40 years old.

There must be a lesson to be learned from the standard of quality and durability of the Routemasters — built specially for London Transport — and their more modern mass-produced brethren.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER PALMER,
Woodside,
Hearts oak Road,
Hawthurst, Kent TN18 5EU.
May 14.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Parris stokes up a football fever

From Mr Oliver Miles
Sir, My enjoyment of Matthew Parris's attack on the cult of football ("Don't make sport of us", May 15) was only slightly attenuated by a suspicion that he was not entirely sincere. Surely no political sketchwriter could be that politically incorrect?

I use the word "cult" literally, not metaphorically. Football is for a time what religion was in the time of Trollope. To be an unbeliever or indifferent to the Church was acceptable, perhaps even common, but it was almost unknown for anyone to say so in public.

I borrow my comparison of football with religion from that underrated work, *The Green Book*, of Colonel Gaddafi.

Sport is either given to the prayer which man performs alone... or public, practised collectively in open places... It is unreasonable for crowds to be worshipped just to view... The thousands who crowd stadiums to view a applaud and laugh are those foolish people who have failed to carry out the activity themselves. They line up on the shelves of the sports grounds, practising lethargy...

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER MILES
(British Ambassador to Libya, 1984),
2 Belfourton Road,
Oxford OX2 6UZ.
May 15.

From Mr Tim Bradford
Sir, Matthew Parris laments the "embourgeoisement" of football and the easy way with which it has been taken up by fashionable people.

One of the symptoms of this phenomenon is patronising newspaper articles which reduce the game and its fans to ridiculous stereotypes (while cleverly making the writer seem more interesting because of his "arm's-length" stance towards the sport). And because writing about football is all the rage, it's a big earner — some of these ridiculous pieces go on for 1,500 words or more.

Thank you, Matthew, for highlighting this absurd trend and for forcing football fans to acknowledge their silly foibles.

Yours faithfully,
TIM BRADFORD,
39a Parfrey Street, W6 9EW.
timbradford@compuserve.com
May 15.

From Mr Charles Spencer
Sir, It is a matter of interest why so many grown men remain addicted to sport. To some extent, of course, grown men never grow up, they hanker after the energy, anarchy and irresponsibility of childhood.

Escapism, generally, plays its part, and until very recently, male exclusivity. At its least objectionable it keeps the men-boys occupied and happy, with a subject for conversation with their peers. It cannot, quite, be said to keep them off the streets, since it is precisely on the streets that the rougher, less controlled fans do their worst.

By far the most serious aspect of enthusiasm for sport is its easy decline into jingoism, even racial, nationalism, attracting the least civilised elements in society.

Yours truly,
CHARLES SPENCER,
24a Ashworth Road, W9 1JY.
May 15.

From Mr Michael W. G. Phillips
Sir, Do us all a favour and lock Matthew Parris in a darkened room for the duration of the World Cup finals.

Yours faithfully,
M. W. G. PHILLIPS,
18 The Causeway, Partridge Green,
West Sussex RH13 8JH.
May 15.

Working in Windows

From Mr David Roberts
Sir, Now that Anatole Kaletsky (article, May 12) and others have pointed out that Microsoft has fees of delay, perhaps I may venture to reveal another hitherto-heretical truth by saying that the Windows operating system, though it has made rich men of Bill Gates and many dealers, has provided few benefits to computer users.

Almost everything that can be done within Windows can be done faster and on less costly equipment using non-graphic operating systems such as DOS. Though some domestic users do benefit from Windows most business computing would be done more quickly and more cheaply without it.

Dealers cannot be expected to admit it, but most of the computing power and facilities sold in current PCs are required not to serve the user but to serve Windows itself.

To be fair to the suppliers, while uninformed victims queue up exclaiming, "Here is a blank cheque. I must have whatever is the latest thing", it would be asking too much of human nature not to oblige them by providing constantly changing "latest things".

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ROBERTS,
3 Elmwood Court,
Pershore Road, Birmingham B5 7PB.
May 15.

Referendum threshold

From Mrs Mair Roberts
Sir, What possible justification can there be for the Prime Minister's decision to impose a 40 per cent majority in his workplace elections in brief, May 1; see also letter, May 18 when, in contrast to the 1979 referendum, it decided not to impose a 40 per cent threshold in the devolution referendum?

As a result, if the Government gets its "yes" vote a devolution, and a Welsh assembly is to be imposed on Wales on the strength of a water-thin majority.

An unequivocal government statement on the circumstances in which a 40 per cent threshold should be imposed is long overdue.

Yours sincerely,
MAIR ROBERTS,
13 Lon y Bryn,
Bangor, Gwynedd LL 57 2LD.
May 18.

Route to posterity

From Mr Roger Palmer
Sir, Good for Ian Firth, the schoolboy bus collector (report and photograph, May 14). I hope that he will be old enough to enjoy driving it.

But the bus, described as found in a scrapyard in Kent, is only 14 years old and clearly is one-man-operated — the preferred method of most bus operators. Through its privatised operating companies London Transport is running conductor-operated Routemasters which are 40 years old.

There must be a lesson to be learned from the standard of quality and durability of the Routemasters — built specially for London Transport — and their more modern mass-produced brethren.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER PALMER,
Woodside,
Hearts oak Road,
Hawthurst, Kent TN18 5EU.
May 14.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Jock shock

From Mr Hugh Wilson
Sir, Last weekend, in the face of mounting football fever, I was persuaded by my son to buy him the World Cup edition of Monopoly.

This replaces the traditional Monopoly sites with finalists in this year's competition. I was not surprised to see Park Lane and Mayfair substituted by Germany and Brazil. England is given the role of Regent Street, which seems both appropriate and fair, given the odds.

However, I was surprised to see Scotland assigned the role of the Old Kent Road. It is even ten spaces behind Belgium (Pall Mall).

This is surely an indignity to Scotland that demands immediate action by the British Government.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH WILSON,
66 Daybrook Road,
Merion Park, SW19 3DH.
May 18.

From Mr Hugh Wilson
Sir, Last weekend, in the face of mounting football fever, I was persuaded by my son to buy him the World Cup edition of Monopoly.

This replaces the traditional Monopoly sites with finalists in this year's competition. I was not surprised to see Park Lane and Mayfair substituted by Germany and Brazil. England is given the role of Regent Street, which seems both appropriate and fair, given the odds.

However, I was surprised to see Scotland assigned the role of the Old Kent Road. It is even ten spaces behind Belgium (Pall Mall).

This is surely an indignity to Scotland that demands immediate action by the British Government.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH WILSON,
66 Daybrook Road,
Merion Park, SW19 3DH.
May 18.

From Mr Hugh Wilson
Sir, Last weekend, in the face of mounting football fever, I was persuaded by my son to buy him the World Cup edition of Monopoly.

This replaces the traditional Monopoly sites with finalists in this year's competition. I was not surprised to see Park Lane and Mayfair substituted by Germany and Brazil. England is given the role of Regent Street, which seems both appropriate and fair, given the odds.

However, I was surprised to see Scotland assigned the role of the Old Kent Road. It is even ten spaces behind Belgium (Pall Mall).

This is surely an indignity to Scotland that demands immediate action by the British Government.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH WILSON,
66 Daybrook Road,
Merion Park, SW19 3DH.
May 18.

From Mr Hugh Wilson
Sir, Last weekend, in the face of mounting football fever, I was persuaded by my son to buy him the World Cup edition of Monopoly.

This replaces the traditional Monopoly sites with finalists in this year's competition. I was not surprised to see Park Lane and Mayfair substituted by Germany and Brazil. England is given the role of Regent Street, which seems both appropriate and fair, given the odds.

However, I was surprised to see Scotland assigned the role of the Old Kent Road. It is even ten spaces behind Belgium (Pall Mall).

This is surely an indignity to Scotland that demands immediate action by the British Government.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH WILSON,
66 Daybrook Road,
Merion Park, SW19 3DH.
May 18.

From Mr Hugh Wilson
Sir, Last weekend, in the face of mounting football fever, I was persuaded by my son to buy him the World Cup edition of Monopoly.

This replaces the traditional Monopoly sites with finalists in this year's competition. I was not surprised to see Park Lane and Mayfair substituted by Germany and Brazil. England is given the role of Regent Street, which seems both appropriate and fair, given the odds.

However, I was surprised to see Scotland assigned the role of the Old Kent Road. It is even ten spaces behind Belgium (Pall Mall).

This is surely an indignity to Scotland that demands immediate action by the British Government.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH WILSON,
66 Daybrook Road,
Merion Park, SW19 3DH.
May 18.

From Mr Hugh Wilson
Sir, Last weekend, in the face of mounting football fever, I was persuaded by my son to buy him the World Cup edition of Monopoly.

This replaces the traditional Monopoly sites with finalists in this year's competition. I was not surprised to see Park Lane and Mayfair substituted by Germany and Brazil. England is given the role of Regent Street, which seems both appropriate and fair, given the odds.

However, I was surprised to see Scotland assigned the role of the Old Kent Road. It is even ten spaces behind Belgium (Pall Mall).

This is surely an indignity to Scotland that demands immediate action by the British Government.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH WILSON,
66 Daybrook Road,
Merion Park, SW19 3DH.
May 18.

From Mr Hugh Wilson
Sir, Last weekend, in the face of mounting football fever, I was persuaded by my son to buy him the World Cup edition of Monopoly.

This replaces the traditional Monopoly sites with finalists in this year's competition. I was not surprised to see Park Lane and Mayfair substituted by Germany and Brazil. England is given the role of Regent Street, which seems both appropriate and fair, given the odds.

However, I was surprised to see Scotland assigned the role of the Old Kent Road. It is even ten spaces behind Belgium (Pall Mall).

This is surely an indignity to Scotland that demands immediate action by the British Government.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH WILSON,
66 Daybrook Road,
Merion Park, SW19 3DH.
May 18.

From Mr Hugh Wilson
Sir, Last weekend, in the face of mounting football fever, I was persuaded by my son to buy him the World Cup edition of Monopoly.

This replaces the traditional Monopoly sites with finalists in this year's competition. I was not surprised to see Park Lane and Mayfair substituted by Germany and Brazil. England is given the role of Regent Street, which seems both appropriate and fair, given the odds.

However, I was surprised to see Scotland assigned the role of the Old Kent Road. It is even ten spaces behind Belgium (Pall Mall).

This is surely an indignity to Scotland that demands immediate action by the British Government.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH WILSON,
66 Daybrook Road,
Merion Park, SW19 3DH.
May 18.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

OBITUARIES

ENID MARX

Enid Marx, designer, died on May 18 aged 95. She was born in London on October 20, 1902.

Enid Marx designed many of the patterns in the background of British life from the 1930s onwards: wall-papers, calendars and packaging, suitcase material, wrapping paper, rugs, menus, plastics, utility furniture and stamps. Her credentials as a Modernist were impeccable. Before the First World War she took one of the earliest commercial flights to Paris and investigated the Left Bank; she was influenced by Picasso and Braque, and was denied a diploma by the Royal College of Art because Charles Ricketts thought her work too abstract. Yet her work was not strident, and was rarely for framing. It was for practical, everyday purposes, fulfilling a function, and pleasing firstly because it was not displeasing or dysfunctional.

In the late 1930s she designed the patterned moquette seat fabric used by London Transport, which was successful because it camouflaged the dirt and didn't make passengers feel sick. One need only look down at today's vile office carpets, which tend to have the opposite effect, to see how good her designs were.

She often worked on a small scale, and her effects were subliminal rather than spectacular. She studied the work of unselfconscious craftsmen of earlier days - from quilts to inn signs and 18th-century fire-insurance plaques - and adapted some of their anonymous skills to the demands of the industrial age.

The daughter of an engineer, Enid Crystal Dorothy Marx thought first of the mechanics of the job, and described herself as a problem-solver rather than an artist. She was educated at Roedean, where she was given surprising freedom to pursue her interests, and also learnt the practicalities of carpentry. The art teacher Dorothy Martin, who daringly introduced pupils to life-drawing, gave her great encouragement.

After a year at the Central School of Arts and Crafts, Marx went on to the painting school at the Royal College of Art, where fellow students included Edward Bawden, Barnett Freedman and Henry Moore. She studied with Paul Nash and Leon Underwood, both of whom were wood-engravers as well as painters, and was particularly influenced by Nash's pattern-making style.

Then the potter Norah Braden took her to see an exhibition of hand-block-printed fabrics by Phyllis Barron and Dorothy Larcher, which set her on a new course. She spent 1925 assisting Barron and Larcher in their



Marx in self-portrait: her designs - subliminal rather than spectacular - put today's vile office carpets to shame

London workshop, mainly printing fabrics to meet one of many commissions from the Duke of Westminster. Her job was to help with mixing dyes, steaming, washing and ironing as well as hand-blocking the designs, carved in pearwood, onto cotton, linen, silk or wool, either directly, using natural vegetable dyes such as quercitron and madder and mineral colours such as iron and chrome, or discharge printing with indigo.

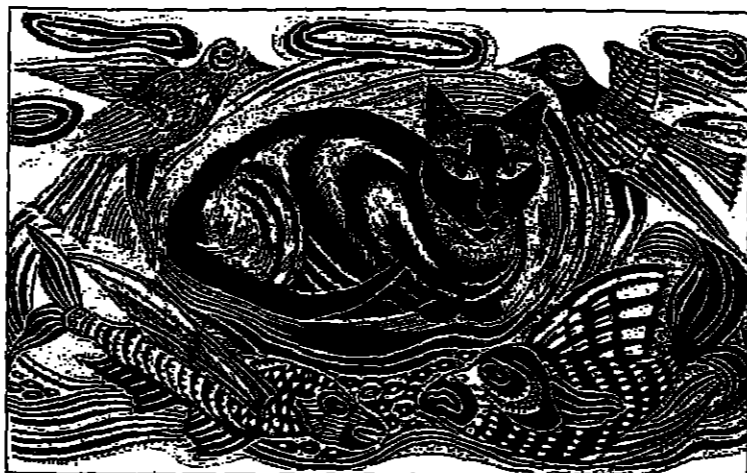
A small, dark, determined woman, Marx had her own studio by 1927, at first in Hampstead, then in St John's Wood. She established a rich, stylish idiom. It was, she said, the fashion to be restrained, and she borrowed her dark, sophisticated colours from friends such as the potter Michael Cardew. She contributed to exhibitions organised by the British Institute of Industrial Art, and her designs appeared in *Artwork*, *The Studio* and *The Woodcut Annual*. She sold her work through Muriel Rose's influential Little Gallery near Sloane Square, where she showed printed cottons, linens and silks in 1930, and

later also in the furniture shop Dunbar Hay.

In the following decade she taught wood-engraving at the Ruskin School of Art in Oxford along with her friends Paul Nash and Eric Ravilious, and began to design book-jackets, patterned papers and posters. She also brought the lean and crisp style of the engraver to fabrics, with linear effects predominating. Her repeats were sometimes very careful doodles, sometimes reminiscent of traditional printers' flowers.

During the war she was commissioned by the Pilgrim Trust to paint a number of buildings that were threatened by the bombing. She also produced little chapbooks for children, to be printed on offsets.

In 1943 the Board of Trade set up the Utility Design Panel to create prototypes for manufacture during the shortages of wartime. The hard-wearing textiles that Enid Marx had designed for Frank Pick at London Transport just before the war brought her to the attention of the furniture designer Gordon Russell,



and she was given almost complete responsibility for the design of Utility textiles. She had only two yarns and four colours, and was restricted to small, 3in or 4in repeats, to save on cutting and matching. By the time the Utility restrictions were revoked, her patterns were familiar to millions.

She was created a Royal Designer for Industry in 1944, and continued to work in many different media after the war. When the present Queen came to the throne she designed the first definitive issue of stamps for the reign, using Dorothy Wilding's portrait photograph within a circle of national floral emblems. Nothing could be more typical of the decade.

Then there was work for publishers, including Penguins, Puffins, Chatto's Zodiac Books and the jackets for the Scott-Moncreiff translation of Proust. Together with her lifelong companion, the historian Margery Lambert, she also published pioneering books on folk art, *When Victoria Began to Reign* (1937) and *English Popular Art* (1951, 2nd ed. 1988). She wrote, lectured and broadcast on folk

art, and urged the creation of a national museum for its display.

She designed the Christmas stamps for 1976, basing them on the Opus Anglicanum embroideries. In later years she contributed wood-engravings for a children's bestiary published by her neighbour Douglas Cleverdon - one of a dozen children's books she illustrated. In 1990 her linocut prints of animals were exhibited at the Judd Street Gallery, and most recently, Graham Moss's *Incline Press* published a number of unpretentious little limited editions of her bookplates and nursery rhyme illustrations, and *Some Beasts and their Feasts*, an alphabet book.

She never married, but lived happily surrounded by cats and woodblocks - her favourite occupation, she said, was carving blocks for textile printing - in her Islington home. In her nineties, she continued to help students of textile history, and kept up a correspondence in which she documented the lives of her many friends in what is now a period of artistic history.

PROFESSOR RALPH RAPHAEL

Professor Ralph Raphael, CBE, FRS, former Head of Organic and Inorganic Chemistry at Cambridge, died on April 27 aged 77. He was born on January 1, 1921.

RALPH RAPHAEL was a distinguished organic chemist who was admired for his light but effective administrative style and loved for his sense of humour and humanity. His unique contribution to the art of organic chemistry was to use simple acetylenes as building blocks for the preparation of important molecules such as carbohydrates, histamine and pheromone produced by queen bees to control the development of worker bees. This work, extending over some 40 years, remains highly influential in academia and the pharmaceutical industry.

Raphael was called to Cambridge in 1972 to head the department built up by Lord Todd. The appointments that he then made, and the encouragement that he gave his young colleagues, allowed him to build the quite exceptional group of organic chemists that is currently flourishing in Cambridge. He was appointed CBE in 1982 and retired formally in 1988.

To many in his department, he was a considerate and generous father figure, who will be remembered for the bottle left anonymously on the desk of a young colleague with exciting results to celebrate, the ice-creams bought for the secretaries on hot days, or the serious lecture that occasionally wandered into science fiction and spoof. His style did not sit easily with the accounts-obsessed 1980s and 1990s. He saw grants and individual staff budgets as barriers to creative science, and made it his business to free his staff to concentrate on teaching and research. Much of his own research, however, remained within conventional organic chemistry.

The musical passion that he shared with his wife Prudence (whom he married in 1943) led him to study violin varnishes; he was convinced that modern analytical techniques combined with imaginative recreation of 17th-century Italian thinking could reproduce the sound of a Stradivarius on a new violin.

Away from science, he was devoted to his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He donated his body to medical science.

his department while at the same time producing outstanding new synthetic chemistry. His synthesis of the queen bee pheromone, in particular, was a piece of work as important for its aesthetic qualities as for its practical applications, although his methods have since been used in the preparation of many pharmaceuticals. He also discovered the structure of chrysanthemic acid, which is found in the everyday chrysanthemum and acts as a potent insect repellent and insecticide.

Raphael was called to Cambridge in 1972 to head the department built up by Lord Todd. The appointments that he then made, and the encouragement that he gave his young colleagues, allowed him to build the quite exceptional group of organic chemists that is currently flourishing in Cambridge. He was appointed CBE in 1982 and retired formally in 1988.

To many in his department, he was a considerate and generous father figure, who will be remembered for the bottle left anonymously on the desk of a young colleague with exciting results to celebrate, the ice-creams bought for the secretaries on hot days, or the serious lecture that occasionally wandered into science fiction and spoof. His style did not sit easily with the accounts-obsessed 1980s and 1990s. He saw grants and individual staff budgets as barriers to creative science, and made it his business to free his staff to concentrate on teaching and research. Much of his own research, however, remained within conventional organic chemistry.

The musical passion that he shared with his wife Prudence (whom he married in 1943) led him to study violin varnishes; he was convinced that modern analytical techniques combined with imaginative recreation of 17th-century Italian thinking could reproduce the sound of a Stradivarius on a new violin. Away from science, he was devoted to his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He donated his body to medical science.

THOMAS IREMONGER

Thomas Iremonger, sailor, colonial officer and Conservative politician, died on May 13 aged 82. He was born on March 14, 1916.

TOM IREMONGER's passion was sailing, and for 20 years he cruised home com-

fortably at every election in Ilford North. Then everything changed. First he saw his majority reduced to three figures in the first election of 1974; then he lost to Labour in the second. This was followed by the selection of a new Tory candidate and two humiliating attempts to regain the seat

as an Independent. He had become increasingly unhappy with his party during the Heath years but Margaret Thatcher, much more to his liking with her brand of Conservatism, arrived too late to save his career. Thomas Iremonger (sa Shandon Valiant Iremonger was

born in the middle of the First World War and owed one of his cumbersome roll of names to the fact that his father was serving with the Royal Marine Artillery in HMS *Valiant* at the Battle of Jutland. He inherited his father's love of water and after King's school, Canterbury, he went up to

Oriel College, Oxford, and sailed for his university against Cambridge.

On coming down he took a customary route for a man with a Blue and a taste for adventure, and joined the Colonial Administrative Service. He was posted to what were then the Gilbert and Ellice Islands which are spread over a vast area of the western Pacific and which provided ample opportunities for sailing.

Iremonger was accompanied by his bride, Lucille, later to become a well-known writer, and her sudden and serious illness caused the two to travel to Fiji for medical treatment. This proved providential. The Gilbert and Ellice Islands were soon invaded and some Europeans were beheaded by the Japanese.

Iremonger managed to obtain his release from the Colonial Service to join the Forces, and naturally went to sea, serving first in the Royal New Zealand Navy and then in the RNVR.

After the war he moved to Conservative Central Office and, somewhat to the surprise of some of his colleagues, was chosen as the candidate for Ilford North at a by-election in February 1954. His majority of 8,427 set the pattern for most of his contests in the constituency.

With his record and ability, Iremonger should have done better in the House, but he rose no higher than a brief period as parliamentary pri-



Iremonger: an active backbencher who, however, was never entirely at one with his Ilford constituents

only slight support from the almost deserted Conservative benches.

Iremonger, an elegant, upright figure, could never be said to be entirely at one with his constituents, and this was probably a factor in the result of the first 1974 election when he scraped home by 285. Some boundary changes - the seat became Redbridge, Ilford North - and the trend to Labour did not help, with the result that in the second election that year he was defeated by 778. When there was a by-election in 1978, he stood as a Conservative Independent Democrat against the new Tory candidate, Vivian Bendall, but secured a derisory number of votes. At his final contest in the constituency in 1979 he stood again, this time as an Independent Conservative, and polled 452, well behind a National Front candidate.

He was a great pet-lover and had the habit of taking his Belgian hare for a walk on a lead round the West End. He also sponsored a Bill designed to make certain that research centres obtained animals for medical experiments only from authorised government sources. He wrote several books on penology after serving as a member of the Royal Commission on the Penal System in the 1960s.

His wife Lucille, author, broadcaster and member of the old London County Council, died in 1989. He is survived by their daughter.

PERSONAL COLUMN

UK HOLIDAYS

SPECIAL OFFER: Continental Europe on a 14-day package from £1,295. Call 0171 252 4422.

MIDWINTER RENDEZVOUS

FLIGHT PARTNERS: Regional flights from London to 15 cities. Call 0171 252 4422.

FLATSHARE

BATTERSEA SW11, overlooking Regent's Canal. Call 0171 252 4422.

FLATSAVERS

MAJESTIC London's finest flat. Call 0171 252 4422.

NOTHING BUT GOLD

QUEEN'S Club, 17th floor. Call 0171 252 4422.

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

Table with flight destinations and prices: SYDNEY £463, PERTH £463, BANGKOK £390, NAIROBI £280, NEW YORK £231, MELBOURNE £463, AUCKLAND £609, RAI £459, TOBAGO £336, LOS ANGELES £328.

JETLINE

Table with flight destinations and prices: NEW YORK £231, LOS ANGELES £328, HONG KONG £390, SINGAPORE £463, AUSTRALIA £463.

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

CONNECTIONS on flights to & from London. Call 0171 252 4422.

Jetworld

CHEAPEST FLIGHTS AVAILABLE. Call 01273 277877.

FARESAVERS

MALAGA £139, LISBON £129, MADRID £129, ATHENS £139, ROME £139, PARIS £129, BRUSSELS £129. Call 01476 592095.

DELTA

Table with flight destinations and prices: SYDNEY £463, PERTH £463, BANGKOK £390, NAIROBI £280, NEW YORK £231, MELBOURNE £463, AUCKLAND £609, RAI £459, TOBAGO £336, LOS ANGELES £328.

JETLINE

Table with flight destinations and prices: NEW YORK £231, LOS ANGELES £328, HONG KONG £390, SINGAPORE £463, AUSTRALIA £463.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANYONE wishing to hear from other non-fiction authors... Call 0171 252 4422.

FLIGHTSEATS

Best Agents in Asia. Call 0171 252 4422.

URGENT

URGENT: Call 0171 252 4422.

URGENT

URGENT: Call 0171 252 4422.

URGENT

URGENT: Call 0171 252 4422.

URGENT

URGENT: Call 0171 252 4422.

URGENT

URGENT: Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS... Call 0171 252 4422.

THE CLEARANCES IN THE HIGHLANDS

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT. ARDRAIG, NEAR TAIN, ROSS-SHIRE, MAY 15. Those who remember the misery and destitution into which large masses of the population were thrown by the systematic 'clearances' carried on in Sutherlandshire some 25 years ago will regret to learn that that heartless course, with all its sequences of misery, of destitution, and of crime, is again being resorted to in Ross-shire. Amongst an imaginative people like the Highlanders, shut out from the world, and clinging to the traditions of the past, it requires little, with fair treatment, to make them almost idolize their heritor. But this feeling of respectful attachment to the landowners, which money cannot buy, is fast passing away. This change is not without cause; and, perhaps, if the dark deeds of calculating 'feudalism', transacted through the instrumentality of factors in some of these lonely glens - if the almost inconceivable misery and hopeless destitution in which, for the expected acquisition of a few pounds, hundreds of peaceable and generally industrious and contented peasants are driven out

ON THIS DAY

May 20, 1845. The removal of tenants from their crofts is a shameful episode in Scottish history. Eviction followed when the crofter could not afford the high rents demanded for his holding which was generally little more than a miserable piece of land and a turf hut. From the means of self-support to become wanderers and starving beggars, and in which a brave and valuable population is destroyed - are exposed to the gaze of the world, general indignation and disgust may effect what moral obligations and humanity cannot. It is the inhabitants of Glen Calvie, in number 90 people, whose turn it is now to be driven out of their homes, all at once - the aged, and the helpless as well as the young, and strong nearly the whole of them without a hope or prospect for the future. Glen Calvie is situated about 25 miles from

Tain, westward, and is named from a stream called the Calvie which runs between abrupt hills and rocks, and forms the boundary of the township on one side... Bleak rough hills, whose surface is almost all rock and heather, close in on all sides, leaving in the valley a gentle declivity of arable land of a very poor description, dotted over with cairns of stone and rock, not at the utmost computation of more than 15 to 20 acres in extent. For this piece of indifferent land, with a right of pasturage on the hills impinging upon it, and on which, if it were not a fact that sheep do live, you would not credit that they could live, so entirely does it seem devoid of vegetation beyond the brown heather, whilst its rocky nature makes it dangerous and unprofitable even for a sheep walk, the almost incredible rent of £55.10s has been paid. I am convinced that for the same land no farmer in England would give £15 at the utmost. Even respectable farmers here say that they do not know how the people raised the rent for it. Potatoes and barley were grown in the valley, and some sheep and a few black cattle and provender amongst the heather. Eighteen families have each a cottage in the valley; they have always paid their rent punctually, and they have contrived to support themselves without assistance in all ordinary seasons...

NEWS

Hague predicts unrest over euro

William Hague was accused of being more extreme on Europe than Margaret Thatcher after issuing a warning that the single currency could trigger political and civil unrest across the Continent.

Army chaplain accused of sex assaults

An Army chaplain indecently assaulted and harassed two women who went to him for help while their husbands were serving in Bosnia, a court martial was told.

Doctors must explain Arms affair claim

The former Scots Guards officer at the centre of the arms-for-Africa affair spoke about his contacts with the Foreign Office and his belief that he was dealing with "honourable" men.

Crumbling castles

English Heritage's new policy of "naming and shaming" owners of decaying historic buildings met its first counter salvo from Alan Clark, the Tory MP and owner of Saltwood Castle.

Bono urges a Yes

The Ulster Unionist Party pulled off its one and only campaign spectacular when the rock star Bono held aloft David Trimble's hand and urged Northern Ireland to vote "yes".

Bank tax threat

Channel Islands and Isle of Man banks could be forced to levy tax on customers' savings or report on them under a proposed EU law.

Golden farewell

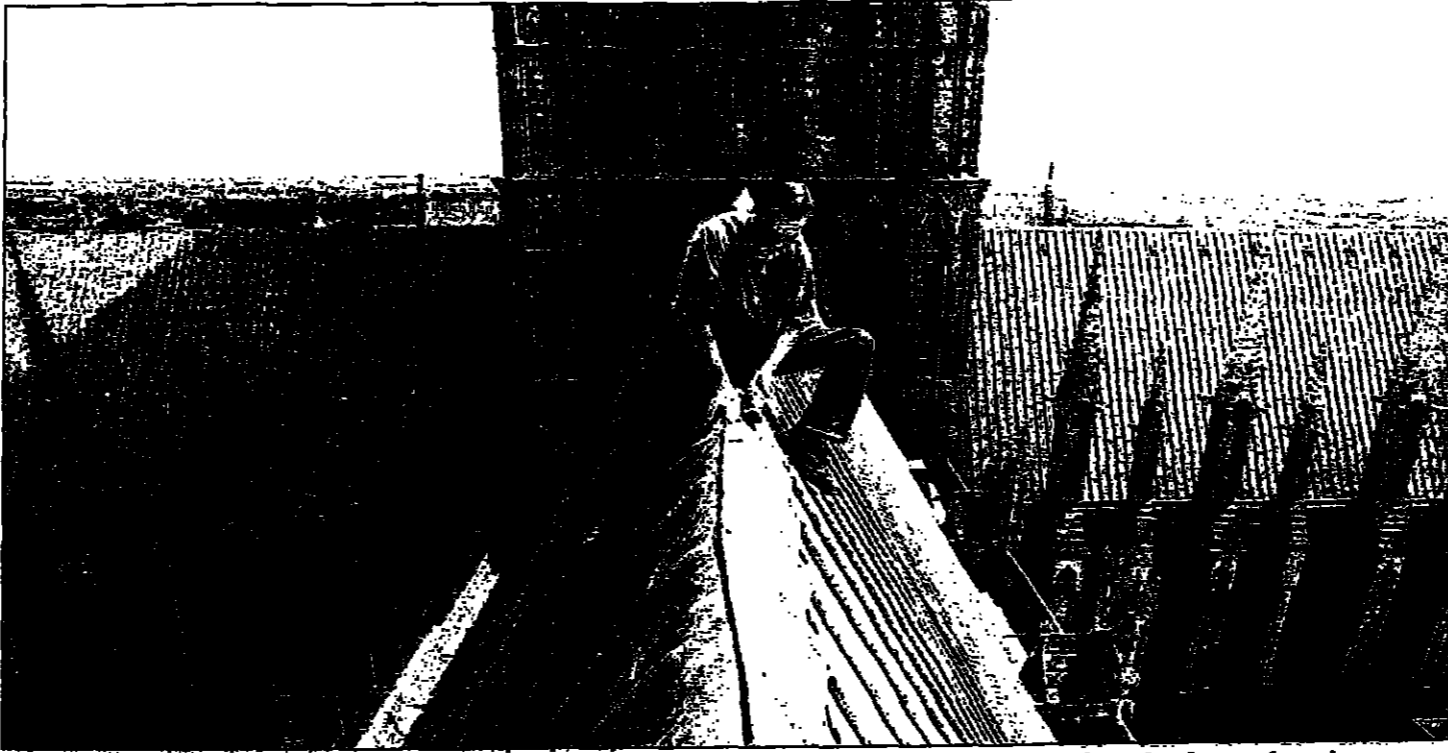
A Welsh gold mine which has provided generations of royal wedding rings closed after a long-running dispute with the Crown Estate.

Monty fights back

George Bond, a balding, angry grandfather, asked a tribunal why should art students have to sketch young female models when they could be studying him?

French see London as tax haven

The "brain drain" from France to Britain is the most serious exodus of talent since the Revolution of 1789, according to a French academic who blamed the wave of young people emigrating on heavy taxes and high unemployment.



Tony Greensmith yesterday finishes the lead ridge of Lincoln Cathedral after roofing renovations that have taken six years

BUSINESS

Resignation: Dr Keith McCullagh

is quitting as chief executive of British Biotech although the troubled company has again refuted damaging allegations about the efficacy of some drugs.

Alarm bells: Headline inflation

was at a six-year high in April, reviving City fears of a further rise in wage settlements. The Government repaid £3.4 billion.

Sainsbury sale: The supermarket

group is raising £375 million through the sale of its 20 per cent stake in Giant Food, the US retailer.

Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 51.6

to 5877.8. The pound was unchanged at 103.1, rising 33 cents to \$1.6243 and falling .22 pfennig to DM2.8981.

SPORT

Football: Glenn Hoddle has told

Paul Gascoigne that any more lapses in behaviour would result in the midfielder's banishment from England's squad.

Cricket: South Africa completed

their warm-up programme for the one-day international series against England with a 99-run win over Kent.

Swimming: Michelle Smith, who

has been accused of manipulating a urine sample provided for drug testers, will not be present when the B sample of the specimen is tested.

Rugby union: Three years after his

last international appearance, Phil Kearns has been selected to play at hooker for Australia against England in Brisbane.

ARTS

Big man Tate: Lars Nittve, the

Swedish maverick appointed to direct the Tate's gallery at Bankside, gives his views on modern art and the British.

Diver's dive: Whether she is

bungee-jumping in New Zealand or making her Glyndebourne debut tomorrow, the Swedish-born mezzo Katarina Karnéus exudes vivacity.

Some doll: Having proved she

could sing in the National's *Gipsy and Dolls*, Imelda Staunton is showing off her credentials as a cult cabaret star.

Parent power: Canadian director

Tobert LePage puts his surreal touch on *Kindertotenlieder*, a moving piece about the vulnerability of parenthood.

FEATURES

Famous for what? "They're every-

where, colonising prime-time TV, devastating tons of newsprint, killing content, undermining achievement, destroying our fragile intellectual ecosystem."

Art attack: If the point of art is to

shock, the Leeds students "work" stunt should get full marks, says Nigella Lawson.

Spinner: "Look, Sarah is not the

most stable woman in the world," the Israeli Prime Minister's spin-doctor is quoted as saying of his boss's wife. And all Israel is agog.

Streetwise: You may think you are

buying into a prestige street. But which end and which side may be crucial to the price.

Future past: Pastiche property

developments are winning favour with planning authorities throughout London. But what is behind such architectural acknowledgements of the past?

The agreement between Europe

and the US easing sanctions on companies doing business with Cuba, Libya and Iran amounts to a ceasefire in the American war against the "rogue" states. It is a success for Europe and for the personal rapport between Clinton and Blair.

— La Repubblica, Italy



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

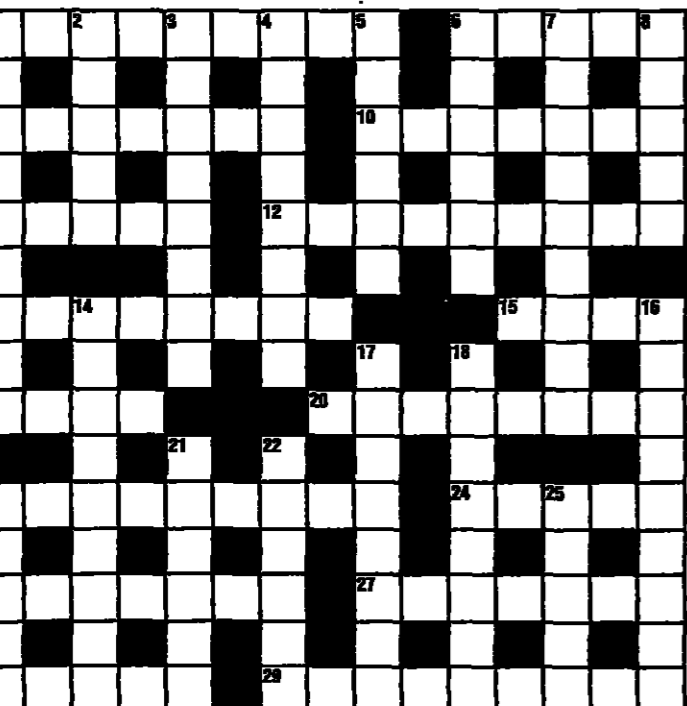
FILMS

Blues Brothers 2000: can Dan Aykroyd and John Goodman recreate the magic and mayhem without John Belushi?

BOOKS

Reviewers include Peter Ackroyd, Roy Foster, Anne Karpf

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,796



- ACROSS
1 I had backing to write poetry and branch out (9).
6 Dispatch reveals hostilities moving South (5).
9 Company agent's new order related to others (7).
10 He can manipulate somebody who's lying (7).
11 Deliveries taking time, it's clear (9).
12 As a rule, select part of the cloth (9).
13 One new supply keeps street packed with understraps (8).
15 Argument - it turned very noisy (4).
19 Rock English, making provocative remark (4).
20 Give further instructions to seize Conservative legal office (9).
23 Two tries to attract attention to secure vote of the masses (5,6).

Solution to Puzzle No 20795
DECAPITATE ASPIS
O A A R L I P H
R U N O V E R O R E A N O
I A E N T A I V
C O U M N I S T V E N U E
E P E R E
U E T O N S T R A M P O I N
I T I T E B E
P R O P A G A T E L O S E R
R A R N L T
E X A C T B A R B A R I A N
A B I T I O L O N
R E A D S E T B R O A D E
E S T I E U T I N
R I D E D B R I D G E H E A D

Latest Road and Weather conditions

Table with columns for UK Weather - All regions, UK Roads - All regions, and various regional weather reports.

Weather by Fax

Table listing fax numbers for various regions: West Country, Wales, Midlands, East Angles, N. West, N. East, Scotland, and MeteoFax.

World City Weather

Table listing weather forecasts for various world cities including London, Paris, Rome, etc.

Motoring

Table listing motoring services and contact numbers for various regions.

AA Car reports by fax

Table listing AA car reports and contact numbers for various regions.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Table showing sunrise and sunset times for various locations.

FORECAST

General: most of England, Northern Ireland and Wales will be sunny, with the chance of a light shower later. Northeast England will be cloudy with some rain later, coasts will stay cool.

AROUND BRISTOL ON MONDAY

Table showing weather forecasts for various locations around Bristol on Monday.

ABROAD

Table showing weather forecasts for various international locations.

WINDSPEEDS

Table showing wind speed forecasts for various locations.

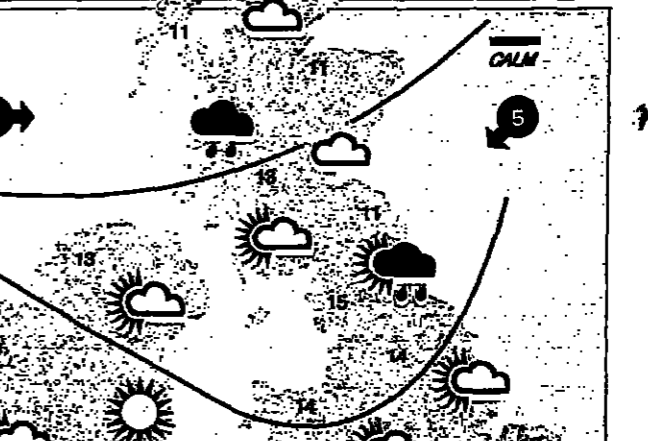
AROUND BRISTOL ON MONDAY

Table showing weather forecasts for various locations around Bristol on Monday.

ABROAD

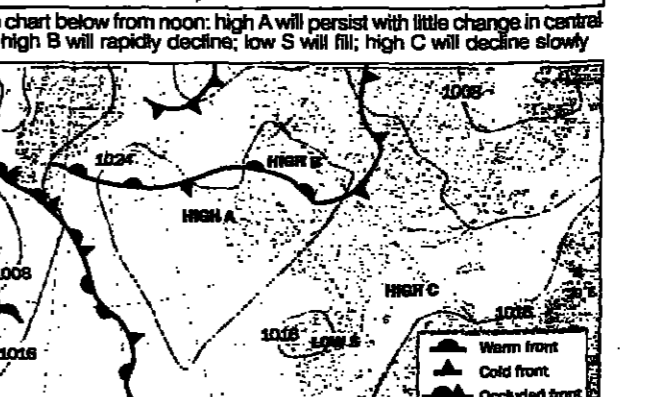
Table showing weather forecasts for various international locations.

WINDSPEEDS



CHANGES TO CHART BELOW FROM NOON

high A will persist with little change in central pressure, high B will rapidly decline, low S will fill, high C will decline slowly



HIGH TIDES

Table showing high tide times for various locations.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Today's highest day temp: London Weather Centre, and Newcastle Weather Centre, 24C (75F); lowest day temp: Liverpool, Aberystwyth, 12C (54F); there was no significant rainfall; highest sunset: Llanthony, West Sussex, 19:07

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, featuring the name 'McCullagh' and text about directors rejecting claims in a detailed circular.

A DRY SPELL is coming

THE TIMES

2

INSIDE SECTION
2
TODAY



BUSINESS
Building to cast off a troubled legacy
PAGE 29



ARTS
The new Swedish nightingale set for Glyndebourne
PAGES 37-39



SPORT
Hoddle issues warning to Gascoigne
PAGES 40-48

TELEVISION AND RADIO PAGES 46, 47

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY MAY 20 1998

McCullagh to step down as British Biotech chief

Directors reject all claims in detailed circular

By PAUL DURMAN

THE British Biotech controversy yesterday claimed the job of Keith McCullagh, chief executive and founder of the troubled drug development company.

Dr McCullagh, a leading figure in the biotech industry and a former adviser to Tony Blair, said he had decided that it would be in the best interests of the company if he left after September's annual meeting. This is despite strong backing from his board, which yesterday published a 32-page circular rejecting the numerous allegations against the company as unfounded. However, the circular reveals that staff at the US Securities and Exchange Commission have recommended taking civil proceedings against British Biotech and against Dr McCullagh and two former directors, Peter Lewis and James Noble. The SEC is believed to be concerned about allegedly misleading statements about marimastat, its cancer drug, that caused a huge surge in the company's share price.

It also confirms that senior managers were concerned last year at Biotech's handling of regulators' main objections about Zacutex, its pancreatic drug. The board considered last July whether to disclose the "negative" initial assessment, but decided not to do so. The company's report found no substance in claims that Dr

McCullagh and two former directors sold £1.35 million of shares when they knew of problems with a trial of batimastat, a cancer drug. The circular confirms that side-effect problems were observed from November 1994, two months before the share sales.

British Biotech has also confirmed that it has abandoned plans to "go it alone" with the US marketing of marimastat, and is instead seeking an alliance with a large pharmaceutical company. It is making a similar climbdown from its previous ambitious strategy on Zacutex. The company said both Zacutex and marimastat in pancreatic cancer may run into regulatory problems because Andy Millar, director of clinical research until his dismissal last month, has looked at data emerging from the trials, potentially threatening their integrity. It is talking to regulators about whether to abandon the US trial of Zacutex.

The Oxford company is also making 46 redundancies as part of plans to reduce its headcount by 14 per cent, and to reduce its cash burn.

Perpetual, the 9.4 per cent shareholder that has been most concerned about the management, was encouraged by Dr McCullagh's departure, the decision to seek a US partner for marimastat, and the cost-cutting. Bob Yer-



Keith McCullagh is to step down after September's annual meeting but it is not clear whether he will remain on the board

bury, chief investment officer, said of Dr McCullagh: "His position had become difficult if not impossible."

Mr Yerbury was also critical of the company for saying that its statements on Zacutex were factually accurate. He

said companies also had a responsibility to make sure their statements were not open to misinterpretation. "In the past this company has fallen down in that regard."

It is not clear whether Dr McCullagh will leave the

board or receive any compensation. John Raisman, chairman, said: "The board is absolutely satisfied that he has nothing to be ashamed of."

Dr Millar said it was for shareholders to decide whether the company had done en-

ough to address his concerns about its flawed strategy. He said: "McCullagh being offered up as the single sacrifice will not serve the shareholders' best long-term interests."

Commentary, page 27

Sainsbury disposes of Giant Food for £375m

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

J SAINSBURY, the supermarket group, is selling its 20 per cent holding in Giant Food, the US food retailer, for £375 million and has signalled its intention to follow in the footsteps of its rival Tesco by investing the cash in developing markets overseas.

The Giant shareholding, which is made up of 20 per cent non-voting and 50 per cent voting shares, is being bought by Ahold, the Dutch supermarket group. Ahold plans to acquire full control of Giant in a deal that will cost it \$3 billion (£1.8 billion).

The sale surprised the market as Sainsbury had been expected to buy the whole of Giant, which is based in Maryland. David Bremner, deputy group chief executive, said: "We have always said we would only take the next move if we felt it could give us long-term value."

The funds raised from the deal could be used for UK expansion, opportunities in the US, where Sainsbury owns the Shaws supermarkets business, and for opportunities in Europe, the Far East and Latin America.

Tesco has built up a large business in Central Europe and on Monday said it was buying a controlling stake in the Lotus supermarket chain in Thailand.

Mr Bremner said: "It is not a case of us following Tesco. We all see the opportunities for global retailing."

Sainsbury's move into the US was seen as the pet project of the retiring chairman, Lord Sainsbury of Turville. However, Mr Bremner insisted that the decision to sell the Giant stake had been taken by himself. Lord Sainsbury and Dino Adriano, chief executive.

Commentary, page 27

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET	
FTSE 100	5877.8 (+51.8)
Nikkei	15551.66 (+167.16)
Dow Jones	9105.22 (+54.91)
S&P Composite	1112.70 (+8.68)

US RATE	
Federal Funds	5.75% (5.75%)
Long Bond	102.24* (102.24%)
Yield	5.93% (5.93%)

LONDON MONEY	
3-month Interbank	7.75% (7.75%)
Libor 3m	107.25 (107.25)
Libor 6m	107.25 (107.25)

NEW YORK	
Dollar	1.8245* (1.8247)
£	1.8245 (1.8213)
DM	2.9987 (2.9920)
FF	2.7152 (2.7318)
SF	2.4033 (2.4141)
Yen	221.07 (220.67)
¥ Index	106.1 (103.1)

LONDON	
DM	1.7328* (1.7356)
FF	2.5816* (2.5950)
SF	1.8294* (1.8270)
Yen	136.36 (134.80)
¥ Index	111.0 (111.1)

TOKYO	
Tokyo close	¥ 138.91
Bank 15-day (Aug)	\$14.70 (\$14.85)
London close	\$299.95 (\$299.35)

* denotes midday trading price

TI's £267m bid

TI Group has negotiated the £267 million takeover of EIS Group, the engineering company that took over the troubled Aerostructures Hamble in 1995. Page 26

Tobacco mix

The popularity of roll-your-own cigarettes has helped Imperial Tobacco to maintain profits growth even though its core UK market has shrunk by 4 per cent - double the normal rate of decline. Page 27

Uncertainty surrounds Greenbury's prospects

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM AND FRASER NELSON

SIR Richard Greenbury yesterday sought, unsuccessfully, to bury speculation that he may be eased out early as chairman of Marks & Spencer, insisting that he will stay on until he is 65.

The company said that the board had accepted his offer to remain in the job for just over three more years until he is 65. However, sources indicated that there is some unhappiness with him staying on for so long.

"He clearly wants to stay on, but it is up to the board and not him and it has not yet been finally decided," a board member told *The Times*.

The director suggested that the issue of whether the job of chairman and chief executive should be split was still being considered. Another source close to the board said there was pressure to appoint an outside chairman, with international experience.

The debate about when Sir Richard should retire and who should succeed him is believed to have prompted inquiries from the Stock Exchange to

Cazenove, the company's broker. The exchange was apparently satisfied that it was not necessary for M&S to issue a formal notification.

The internal candidates to succeed Sir Richard would be Keith Oates, deputy chairman, and Guy McCracken, Peter Salsbury and Lord Stone of Blackheath, the joint managing directors. Sir Richard



Greenbury: wants to stay

said that the recent changes in responsibilities among the managing directors did not indicate who he favoured as successor. "We decided it was the appropriate time to move managing directors. It has nothing to do with anything else," he said.

He was speaking as he unveiled pre-tax profits in the year to March 31 up 6 per cent to £1.17 billion. The figures were helped by an unexpected VAT credit of £33 million. The company's shares eased up to 576p as Sir Richard said that the company's big expansion plan will hold back profits in the current year. Overseas profits were £23 million below last year's because of the effect of the strong pound. Sir Richard said he expects the UK market to remain extremely competitive.

The company turned in earnings per share of 29.1p (26.7p) and will pay a final dividend of 10.7p per share (9.7p) giving a total for the year of 14.3p (13p).

Commentary, page 27

BT's cable franchises to be sold

BT HAS agreed to sell its remaining cable television interests to comply with the demands of the European Commission and win clearance for its involvement in British Interactive Broadcasting (BIB), the satellite home shopping service (Raymond Snoddy writes).

BT owns one of the original cable franchises, Westminster Cable, which covers the House of Commons, the West End and most of London's most prestigious hotels. BT's other franchise covers Milton Keynes.

BIB is a consortium made up of BSkyB - the satellite venture in which News International parent of *The Times*, holds a 40 per cent stake - BT, Matsushita and Midland Bank. The plan is that BIB will subsidise the digital decoders needed to receive 200 BSkyB channels in return for a small transaction fee on its home shopping, home banking and interactive services.

The EU insists that national telecoms organisations get rid of their cable networks to encourage competition.

Surge in inflation to 4% prompts City wage fears

By ALASDAIR MURRAY, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

HEADLINE inflation surged to a six-year high in April, reviving City fears of a further rise in wage settlements.

Budget tax increases pushed inflation from 3.5 per cent in March to 4 per cent - the highest figure since May 1992.

Underlying inflation, which excludes mortgage interest payments, also increased sharply, climbing from 2.6 per cent to 3 per cent compared with a target level of 2.5 per cent.

However, there was better news in separate data showing a substantial budget surplus of £3.4 billion in April. Economists said the strong start to the year suggested that the Government was on course to record a budget surplus over the full year.

The Bank and the Treasury expect the effect of the Budget increases to begin to unwind by the end of this quarter and economists said the data would not prompt the Bank to raise rates again at this stage.

The pound briefly ticked

higher on the data before settling only slightly down at DM2,891. The FTSE 100 closed up 51.6 points at 5,877.8.

There was concern, however, that the rise in headline inflation could trigger higher wage settlements because most pay deals still use headline inflation as a benchmark.

Petrol and diesel prices rose by about 4p after the Budget. While housing costs were lifted by the cut in mortgage interest tax relief. There were also higher council tax and water charges. In contrast, retail goods price inflation slowed to a five-year low of 0.2 per cent.

A large jump in tax receipts helped the Government to record a far better than expected Budget surplus of £3.4 billion in April compared with £348 million a year ago. Income tax receipts jumped 19 per cent because of large bonus payments. Government spending was again below expectations, rising less than 1 per cent over last year.

The pound briefly ticked

ITC could kill LIVE TV, warns MacKenzie

By RAYMOND SNODDY
MEDIA EDITOR

THE News Bunny could become an endangered species and Topless Darts disappear for ever, Kevin MacKenzie, deputy chief executive of Mirror Group, has warned MPs.

Mr MacKenzie says he will be left with no choice but to close LIVE.

Commission changes its mind over plans to end guaranteed distribution deals for cable television channels.

The former editor of *The Sun* has written to MPs asking for their help "in stopping a serious threat to cable stations from the Independent Television Commission". Mr MacKenzie will make his case today in a meeting with senior ITC officials.

The ITC has moved to "unbundle" distribution channels

to ensure that the consumer does not have to pay for channels they do not want. At the same time the commission is insisting that guaranteed distribution deals ensuring that particular channels should go to all cable subscribers in a franchise area should end even where legal contracts have been signed.

In his letter to MPs Mr MacKenzie says that £30 million has already been invested in LIVE TV and the

local City stations. "These stations have been built on the back of contracts with the cable companies guaranteeing distribution to all cable homes, and would not have been launched without it," he argues.

Interfering with freely negotiated deals retrospectively, the Mirror executive adds, "would be unprecedented and wholly unjustifiable."

The Mirror Group is considering legal action against the ITC if it does

not change its mind. Other channel owners are also concerned about the ITC's stance. Viacom, the US group that owns channels such as MTV, has said it could move away from the UK if the ITC does not reconsider.

If LIVE does close, it will reduce the workload of the ITC, which has had a number of run-ins with the station about its programming, which has featured a stripping financial market report and the weather in Norwegian.

YOUR PENSION IN YOUR OWN TIME, IN YOUR OWN WAY.

A Merchant Investors pension is an easy, convenient and flexible pension.

The charges are low.

You can vary your contributions without charge.

Pay no commission when you buy direct.

No sales person will bother you.

Merchant Investors
Assurance

Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and part of Alliance - one of the world's largest insurers.

Mail this coupon to: Merchant Investors Assurance, Company Limited, Freeport BS 6013, Bristol BS1 2JZ. Fax: 01454 71855 / 01454 7185 (please circle as appropriate)

INITIALS _____ SURNAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

Are you EMPLOYED or SELF EMPLOYED? (please tick)

EMPLOYED, or you in your company possess a share

YES or NO (please tick) TT 20/95

CALL NOW ON 0800 374857 FOR A BROCHURE

TI promises twin benefits after agreed EIS takeover

By CARL MORTISHED

TI GROUP has agreed the £267 million takeover of EIS Group, the engineering company which took over the troubled Aerostructures Hamble in 1995.

The recommended cash offer of 50p per share will give EIS shareholders a 48 per cent uplift on the price of 340p per share prior to TI's announcement. The EIS share price has been in decline since its 440p peak in 1994, but it has begun to recover over the past year after a restructuring of its fluid and precision technology businesses.

TI's share price tumbled yesterday despite assurances by the company that the deal would enhance earnings in the first full year, excluding amortisation of goodwill. Sir Christopher Lewinton, the chairman of TI, said that the fluid technology businesses of EIS would fit well with John Crane, while the aerospace business would complement TI's Dowty aerospace division. Sir Christopher said: "It should be seen as two bolt-on acquisitions."

Sir Christopher added that the EIS operating margins would be brought up to TI's level. EIS earned a return on sales last year of between 6 per cent and 7 per cent, compared with TI's margin of more than 12 per cent.

However, TI emphasised that the benefits of the takeover were not in reducing costs. Bill Laule, TI's chief executive, explained that the purchase of EIS was driven by the promise of top-line growth. Mr Laule said: "The company has had a chequered past, but they have closed 15 factories, they have done a lot of the hard work."

Instead, he sees efficiencies to be gained from increasing the sales potential of EIS by adding its products to TI's John Crane and Dowty divisions. "The industries we serve are the same — the customer is seeking consolidation of suppliers."

Stitching together the two aerospace businesses would add some £200 million in sales to Dowty's £300 million in turnover and bring EIS products to TI's major customers, such as Boeing and British Aerospace.

EIS, which bought Hamble only a few months after the aerospace group's disastrous stock market debut, made pre-tax profits last year of £28.2 million on sales of £52 million. The company had net assets of £150 million and net debt of £51 million at the end of December.

TI said yesterday that it would still have some £500 million in funds available for further deals after the completion of the EIS takeover.

Tempus, page 26



In the driving seat: Declan O'Farrell, left, John Golledge and Bert Morris, right, of Metroline, which raised pre-tax profits by 25 per cent to £2.62 million for the half year to March 27. Earnings rose 18 per cent to 9.5p and a half-year dividend of 2.1p will be paid. The bus company said the second half is in line with expectations.

Europeans eye PolyGram films

By CHRIS AYRES

THE prospect of a European company buying the film side of PolyGram emerged yesterday as Seagram moved closer to purchasing the entertainment group for about \$10 billion (£6 billion).

Industry sources said Pathé, the French film company that has backed one of the UK's National Lottery subsidised film franchises, and Kirch, the German media group owned by Leo Kirch, were prime candidates to buy the film business, so saving it from merely becoming a part of Seagram's Universal/MCA film division.

There has been widespread concern in the European film industry that PolyGram, the region's flagship, could be swallowed by Seagram's Universal Studios.

PolyGram's film interests including the British subsidiary Working Title, which has been responsible for movies such as *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and *Bean*. The company has ploughed about \$1.2 billion into the loss-making division over the past seven years, mainly to set up a US distribution business. It is expected to make a profit for the first time in 1999.

Forstman Little & Co and Texas Pacific, the US buyout firms, have walked away from bidding for PolyGram.

Forstman Little had considered a joint bid with Michael Ovitz, the former Disney executive. The asking price for the record label, 75 per cent owned by Philips, is said to be more than \$10 billion.

Asia turmoil costs fund manager £300m

By RICHARD MILES

ABERDEEN Asset Management said yesterday that it had lost about £300 million because of adverse stock market movements in the Far East.

Martin Gilbert, chief executive, said the value of its assets in South-East Asia had fallen by about 30 per cent, and likened the conditions in the region to the Great Depression of the 1930s.

However, Mr Gilbert said Aberdeen had been cushioned from the turmoil in Eastern markets by its merger last July with Profitic, a fund manager that is more heavily invested in UK equities. The merger helped to more than double turnover at the group to £22.7 million during the six months to March 31, and to lift pre-tax profits to £7 million from £3.5 million. Total assets grew 14.5 per cent to £13.6 billion.

Exceptional costs for the period were £3.7 million, as the two asset managers consolidated back-office systems. Administrative expenses were up slightly more than turnover at 240 per cent, largely because of rising personnel, sales & marketing costs.

Mr Martin said the trend of rising expenses was worrying, but he believed Aberdeen was not alone in this situation. "The type of operating margins we used to see in the industry — I can remember when they were 50 per cent — are no longer sustainable," he said.

On acquisitions, Mr Martin said it was the wrong time to buy. However, when markets and prices came down, Aberdeen would look again at possible buys in the fund management market.

Aberdeen will pay an interim dividend of 1.5p on July 1, a 20 per cent increase on the equivalent payment in 1997.

Suharto promise aids Asian shares

By ALASDAIR MURRAY, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

ASIAN markets enjoyed a modest rally yesterday after President Suharto of Indonesia promised to introduce political reform to the troubled country.

President Suharto said that he would hold new elections within a year and would step down from the leadership at that point.

The news helped the rupiah recover strongly after earlier falling around a third of its value to a new low of 16,000. The Indonesian currency closed 11,725 to the dollar only slightly below its opening price.

Jakarta shares added 6.4 per cent. Stocks with close links to the Suharto family rose sharply.

However, some investors were sceptical about the Suharto announcement and warned that there could be further losses if a mass anti-Suharto rally which is to take place today ends in fresh bloodshed.

Some market traders even took part in an anti-government protest in the lobby of the stock exchange building yesterday.

President Suharto's commitment to reform also helped to firm fragile market sentiment elsewhere in Asia. In Tokyo, the Nikkei index added 1.1 per cent while the yen improved from 136.30 to the dollar to 135.60. In Hong Kong, the hang seng added 0.4 per cent to close at 9499.1 and Malaysian shares gained 0.8 per cent.

Shares in Singapore and Thailand, however, lost further ground and traders gave warning that it would take little to send the markets downwards once more.

Camelot to review lottery advertising

By RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

CAMELOT, operator of the National Lottery, is to review its advertising account after four years.

The current campaign — *It Could Be You*, by Saatchi & Saatchi — is worth about £20 million a year. It is expected that five companies, including Saatchi & Saatchi, will be invited to pitch for the account in the next few weeks.

The chosen agency will provide the creative advertising for all National Lottery games, both of the weekly draws and instant, including television, cinema, newspaper, poster and radio campaigns. The spending could rise to £30 million in the current year.

Tim Holley, Camelot chief executive, said: "Saatchi & Saatchi helped us to achieve a textbook launch with some of the most recognised advertising of the decade. However, we feel that now is the right time to review the position to ensure that we have the best possible advertising platform for the future."

Saatchi & Saatchi is unhappy about the move. Internal letters show that the agency remains committed to the *It Could Be You* campaign, which it regards as one of the most popular of all time.

Nikko picks up tab at RoadChef

By JON ASHWORTH



Hands: led deals

NIKKO Europe, the Japanese securities firm, has beaten its rival Nomura International in the fight to buy RoadChef, Britain's third biggest motorway service station group. The £175 million deal nets nearly £90 million for RoadChef's major shareholder.

Tim Ingram Hill, 48, chairman and chief executive, who led a management buyout of RoadChef in 1993, will with his family, net £75.2 million in cash for his stake in the business. He will hold shares in the group worth a further £12.4 million. Three senior managers will share £2.5 million. Some 325 RoadChef employee-shareholders will share a further £6 million.

Mr Ingram Hill, who is married with two children, remains chief executive of RoadChef, which is based in Barnwood, Gloucestershire. A former hotelier, he joined RoadChef in 1979. He has taken the business to third place behind Granada, owner of Little Chef, and Welcome Break, sold last year to Investcorp, the Bahrain investment group, for £476 million.

The deal is Nikko's first big push into a market dominated by Nomura, where Guy Hands, head of principal finance, has led deals including Angel Trains, Intreprenure and William Hill. Four former Nomura employees defected to Nikko, including Keith How-

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Powell Duffryn sells last fuel distributor

POWELL DUFFRYN, the industrial group famous for once successfully surviving a bid from Hanson Trust, yesterday completed its exit from fuel distribution with the sale of UKFP, the oil distribution arm, to a subsidiary of CPL. The £29 million cash deal nets £20 million for Powell Duffryn. An exceptional charge of £12 million will have to be made to profits, however, to cover goodwill that was previously written off in the balance sheet. Powell Duffryn shares rose 1p to 611p yesterday.

Powell Duffryn has already sold its coal and LPG distribution business and has now made a complete exit from what was once its main area of operations. The company is now more interested in its ports and engineering businesses and believes that its quality of earnings will be improved by not being so dependent on the weather. In the year to March 31 UKFP had sales of £352 million and operating profits of £2.7 million. This figure included, however, £1.9 million of stock profits. The disposal results in an approximate halving of group turnover, although the group's operating margin is likely to double. Powell Duffryn is due to report results for the year to March 31 on June 4.

Slimma profits slimmer

SLIMMA, the manufacturer of women's clothing, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits from £401,000 to £252,000 in the half year to April 3 on sales up from £10.8 million to £11.1 million. Earnings fell from 2.61p to 1.69p although the half-year dividend is unchanged at 1.45p. The shares fell 4p to 42p. The company said that the general downturn in consumer spending on clothing and the inevitable re-phasing of customer deliveries had slowed sales growth in the second quarter of the financial year.

Aid threat for Airbus

GERMANY has said it would not be possible to provide state aid to Airbus's planned \$8 billion (£4.8 billion) A3XX super-large jet project if the group — made up of Aerospatiale, of France, Germany's Dasa, British Aerospace and CASA, of Spain — fails to finalise its conversion into a single corporate entity. Guenter Rexrodt, the Economics Minister, speaking after talks with ministers from France, Britain and Spain, said that completion of the restructuring must come first. The original deadline of January 1, 1999, appears to be out of reach.

QMH chief joins Thistle

THISTLE HOTELS has appointed Andrew Bould, managing director of the British division of Queens Moat Houses, as chief operating officer. Mr Bould has been at QMH since 1993, joining from Ladbroke, where he was sales and marketing vice-president of Hilton International. Shares in Thistle remained at 204p. Thistle said Mr Bould would join at the earliest opportunity. Ian Burke, chief executive of Thistle, said: "Andrew has considerable experience within the hotel business and I am very pleased that he is joining us."

CU agrees purchase

COMMERCIAL UNION, the UK composite insurer, said it has now entered into a binding agreement with Munich Re and Allianz to acquire their stakes of 64.57 per cent and 30 per cent respectively in Berlinische Lebensversicherung. The acquisition, originally announced in February, will cost DM600 million (£205 million). DMS67 million will be paid in CU shares to Munich Re and Allianz. Regulatory approval is expected next month, when CU will make a public offer to acquire the remaining 5.43 per cent of the shares.

Newsquest delivers

NEWSQUEST, Britain's largest regional and local newspaper publisher, reported a rise in first-quarter pre-tax profits to £17.3 million from £9 million. The company benefited from a reduction in interest charges after its 1997 flotation and an increase in operating profits to £21.95 million from £17.8 million on turnover up to £79.5 million from £71 million. The company said advertising revenues improved 6.6 per cent, with a 13.1 per cent increase in classified advertising and a 1.1 per cent increase in display advertising.

Drings suspended

SHARES in AIM-listed Drings of Bath were suspended at 2p yesterday pending clarification of the company's financial position. The move came at the company's own request. The shares, floated during 1996, reached a high of 4p shortly after listing. At suspension the company was worth £1.7 million on the Stock Exchange. It made £10,000 in the year to March 31 1997 on sales of £3.6 million. The company makes natural stone products for the building and construction industry. It never paid a dividend.

Kodak snaps go online

PHOTOGRAPHERS in America who take Kodak film in to be developed, can have their pictures returned on the Internet under a scheme announced by Eastman Kodak and America Online, the world's largest online service. The arrangement will be available to AOL's 12 million members. The companies said they expect more than 30,000 retailers to join the scheme. Photographers can drop off film from any type of camera and have digital images returned to their AOL e-mail address within 48 hours.

UniChem buys in Italy

ALLIANCE UNICHEM, the UK-based European wholesaler and retailer of pharmaceuticals and healthcare products, is buying a 36 per cent stake in Unifarma Distribuzione, an Italian pharmaceutical wholesaler, for £7.5 million. Alliance UniChem, whose chairman is Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, said the deal continued to build upon the existing share of the European markets in which it operates. Albezza Salute Italia, the company's Italian subsidiary, has a 24 per cent market share in Italy.

Advertisement

CZECH & SLOVAK INVESTMENT CORPORATION INC.

NOTICE OF MEETING OF WARRANTHOLDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a MEETING OF WARRANTHOLDERS of Czech & Slovak Investment Corporation Inc. (the "Fund") will be held at 3.30 p.m. (Jersey time) on 11th June, 1998 at the offices of Robert Fleming Management (Jersey) Limited at Queen's House, Don Road, St. Helier, Jersey JE2 4QD, Channel Islands, for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following resolution which will be proposed as an extraordinary resolution:

Extraordinary Resolution

THAT the Fund be authorised to reduce the number of its issued shares in the manner set out in the circular dated 18th May, 1998 (the "Circular"), a copy of which Circular is produced to this meeting and initiated by the Chairman for the purpose of identification.

Registered Office:
Upland House,
P.O. Box 309,
South Church Street,
Grand Cayman,
Cayman Islands,
British West Indies
18th May, 1998

By order of the Board
John Frederick Dwyer
Secretary

Notes:

- Copies of the Circular will be available from this date at the registered office of the Fund or Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York (Attention: Patricia Davrona) at Avenue des Arts, 35, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium (the "Warrant Agent") or Euroclear (Attention: International Custody Department Telephone: 32 2 224 44 00) or Codel Bank, société anonyme, (Attention: Angela Muredda) at P.O. Box 1006, 67, Boulevard Grand-Duchesse Charlotte, L-1010 Luxembourg or ING Barings Securities Limited (Attention: Mark Robinson) at 60 London Wall, London EC2M 5TQ, England.
- Voting certificates for warrantholders, including those warrantholders who do not wish to attend and vote at the meeting and who wish to appoint a proxy, will be issued to warrantholders by Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York or Codel Bank, société anonyme each at the above address. Voting instructions must be sent to Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York (Attention: Patricia Davrona) at the above address, so as to arrive no later than 3.30 p.m. (Jersey time) on 9th June, 1998.
- Two persons holding voting certificates and representing in the aggregate holders of not less than 50 per cent of the warrants for the time being remaining exercisable will constitute a quorum for these purposes. To be passed as an extraordinary resolution, a majority consisting not less than three-fourths of the votes must be cast in favour of the resolution either in person or by proxy.

CZECH & SLOVAK INVESTMENT CORPORATION INC.

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Czech & Slovak Investment Corporation Inc. (the "Fund") will be held at 3.00 p.m. (Jersey time) on 11th June, 1998 at the offices of Robert Fleming Management (Jersey) Limited at Queen's House, Don Road, St. Helier, Jersey JE2 4QD, Channel Islands, for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following resolutions which will be proposed as ordinary resolutions:

Ordinary Resolutions

- THAT the Fund be authorised to repurchase its own shares in the manner set out in the circular dated 18th May, 1998 (the "Circular"), a copy of which Circular is produced to the meeting and initiated by the Chairman for the purpose of identification.
- THAT the proposed incentive scheme and the proposed amendments to the investment management agreement of the Fund each in the form produced to the meeting and initiated by the Chairman be and are hereby approved and that the directors of the Fund be and are hereby authorised to take any action as they consider necessary to give effect thereto.

Registered Office:
Upland House,
P.O. Box 309,
South Church Street,
Grand Cayman,
Cayman Islands,
British West Indies
18th May, 1998

By order of the Board
John Frederick Dwyer
Secretary

Notes:

- Copies of the Circular will be available from this date at the registered office of the Fund or Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York (Attention: Patricia Davrona) at Avenue des Arts, 35, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium (the "Share Agent") or Euroclear (Attention: International Custody Department Telephone: 32 2 224 44 00) or Codel Bank, société anonyme, (Attention: Angela Muredda) at P.O. Box 1006, 67, Boulevard Grand-Duchesse Charlotte, L-1010 Luxembourg or ING Barings Securities Limited (Attention: Mark Robinson) at 60 London Wall, London EC2M 5TQ, England.
- Voting certificates and, for shareholders who do not wish to attend and vote at the meeting and who wish to appoint a proxy, voting instructions will be issued to shareholders by the Fund or Share Agent upon deposit at the registered office of the Fund or the office of the Share Agent of either (i) bearer certificates representing ordinary shares in the Fund or (ii) a certificate from a bank to the effect that such bearer certificates have been deposited with it and they are held to the order of the Share Agent until after the time at which the voting rights in respect of which the instructions are given may be exercised or (iii) a notice that Codel Bank, société anonyme or the Euroclear System has been instructed to hold such bearer certificates to the order of the Share Agent before 3.00 p.m. (Jersey time) on 9th May, 1998. Voting instructions must be deposited at the offices of the Share Agent (Attention: Patricia Davrona) or sent by telex or SWIFT to the Share Agent (Attention: Patricia Davrona) by 3.00 p.m. (Jersey time) on 9th May, 1998.
- Two members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote will constitute a quorum for all purposes. To be passed as an ordinary resolution, a majority of votes must be cast in favour of the resolution either in person or by proxy.

Imperial T
profits fuel
roll-your-ov

Compass strategy
changes direction

MCIT to simplify
capital structure

Net sales recovery

Bank	Bank	Bank
Buy	Sell	Sell
Australia \$	0.70	0.92
Austria Sch	21.31	27.85
Belgium F	2.477	2.289
Cayman Cyp	0.255	0.254
Denmark Kr	11.83	10.74
Finland Mkk	5.36	6.40
France Fr	10.18	9.40
Germany Dm	3.06	2.82
Greece Dr	326	497
Hong Kong \$	13.41	10.8
Iceland Iskr	129	1.11
India Rupee	1.21	1.08
Israel Shk	0.32	0.57
Italy Lira	0.001	0.001
Japan Yen	235.77	218.24
Malaysia Rm	0.874	0.676
Netherlands Gld	3.435	3.180
New Zealand \$	3.18	2.84
Norway Kr	3.48	3.18
Portugal Esc	209.28	207.28
S Africa R	8.97	8.97
Spain Ptas	25.89	238.80
Sweden Kr	13.48	12.83
Switzerland Sfr	1.751	1.624
Turkey Lira	41.7312	367.34
USA \$	1.750	1.597

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

British Biotech lacks candour



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Keith McCullagh is an honourable man. We know this because British Biotech, the drug development company he founded, tells us so. The tribute would be more persuasive if Dr McCullagh had not, a month ago, sought to mislead *The Times* about the extent of his knowledge of the progress of the clinical trial of Zacetex, its pancreatitis drug. He said: "At no stage has it been unblinded" — that is, the patient data examined to see the emerging results. He expressed shock and surprise that Andy Miller, the director of clinical research turned whistleblower, might have done such a thing.

Yesterday, Dr McCullagh was flatly contradicted by British Biotech's circular to shareholders. It says Dr Miller told Dr McCullagh of the unblinding in a memo last May and was given further information by him last September. Shareholders ought to be concerned about why Dr McCullagh felt it necessary to tell us an untruth.

Dr McCullagh has recognised the inevitable and is to stand down as chief executive. But, for all British Biotech's fine words, it has failed to answer some of the main concerns raised by Dr Miller — principal among them, will its drugs work? In the case of the studies on pancreatitis and pancreatic cancer, the company now

confirms Dr Miller's account that he had unblinded the trials and gives warning that this may threaten any hope of regulatory approvals, even if the drugs should prove effective. Blaming Dr Miller for having to abandon the Zacetex trials might seem preferable to admitting failure.

John Raisman, British Biotech's chairman, insists the various allegations of misleading the market are unfounded. The company's "detailed rebuttal" fills in some gaps, but it does not undermine any of the main charges. Should shareholders have been told that British Biotech is being investigated for allegedly misleading statements about its main product? Or that regulators have major objections to Zacetex? Or that directors' share dealings have been investigated by the Stock Exchange? As Mr Raisman and Dr Miller agree, it is for shareholders to decide. It looks a no brainer.

British Biotech's lack of candour raises important issues for the rest of this potentially important sector of the UK economy. With no sales, biotech companies are valued according

to their words. If one cannot put any value on those words, why should investors place any value on the companies?

The British Biotech board's handling of this messy affair has been appalling. Keith McCullagh may have been the driving force in the company, but it will take more than his departure to rebuild confidence.

A question of succession at M&S?

Sir Richard Greenbury has little time for analysts and less for journalists. With a degree of justification, he tends to think that no one is better qualified than he to pass judgement on the company where he has worked since he was 16. But Sir Richard's undeniable devotion to Marks & Spencer is

beginning to backfire. The company is a great British success story, a high street name which has successfully ventured overseas and will be one of the true global brands of the next century. Yesterday's profit figures show that international expansion brings exposure to other countries' economic vicissitudes but underline that M&S is strong enough in its home market to withstand such local difficulties.

The City's focus of attention, however, was not on Marks' achievements but on its leadership. It takes a hide of rhinoceros strength to mention it to Sir Richard, but the big question mark hanging over M&S relates to succession. There is no implied criticism in inquiring what plans there are for an orderly handover at the top, yet Sir Richard reacts as if mere mention of the issue is insulting in the extreme. He

intends to stay in his job until he is 65 and that is that.

This attitude is unsettling for those within the company as well as without. Sir Richard runs M&S with such a fierce grip that his title is irrelevant. But his determination not to loosen his hold has created a degree of frustration beneath him. Keith Oates, that rarity, an outsider recruited into the upper echelons of the company, may be called deputy chairman but, as time has passed, he has seen the likelihood of further elevation drifting away. Among the next layer of players, former tip for the top, Andrew Stone, has now accepted a life peerage and feels able to combine a senior role at M&S with being a working peer. It will take at least two to succeed Sir Richard: a chairman with global experience who can bring an outsider's view to the

ingrained M&S culture and an effective chief executive. The latter should be lurking within the upper echelons of the company.

Sir Richard has accomplished wonders. Ensuring a neat and imaginative succession should be seen as crowning those achievements rather than admitting defeat.

Cheap scotch on the rocks

Eurotunnel's equity units, though now only a shrunken relic of past hopes, managed a 5 per cent rise yesterday to 60p. This red letter day contained two potentially good pieces of news.

In London, Railtrack has finally come up with a scheme that would eventually revive the high-speed train link to the tunnel. Sady, it still needs to ensure Treasury agreement and that there will be a Eurostar service to run on it. In Brussels, EU finance ministers chaired by Gordon Brown, chose to stick with plans to ban the secret weapon of rival ferries and

airlines: duty-free sales on internal EU journeys. Ferry groups, such as P&O, have been planning their retailing on this basis for years; ultimately, a captive audience is still valuable, even without the encouragement of tax breaks. The companies have been viewing all their costs minus the duty-free bonus: hence, for instance, the Stena merger and the permission given for it. But any rise in prices and the loss of any weaker competitors who still depend on duty-free subsidy will help the tunnel.

Homebased

DAVID SAINSBURY'S grand American strategy has gone faster than the grocery peer can pack his briefcase. After three years, Sainsbury is cashing in its stake in Giant Food to a \$600 million bid from the Dutch Abold group. Sainsbury says proceeds will be reinvested in the US, where it is trying to turn round its modest Shaws chain but Sainsbury's non-family bosses must be thinking that the money would go further in less-developed markets.

Imperial Tobacco profits fuelled by roll-your-own link

By FRASER NELSON

POPULARITY of roll-your-own cigarettes has helped Imperial Tobacco to maintain profits growth even though its core UK market has shrunk by 4 per cent — double the normal rate of decline.

The company's acquisition of Rizla, the papers company, added £14 million to its pre-tax profits at the halfway stage, making £146 million (£143 million) in the six months to March 28.

The company said it has already increased productivity in its Rizla factories by 18 per cent — after cutting 100 of the 800 jobs in the factories.

Gareth Davis, the chief executive, said the company has held back from entering other European markets only because of concern about not being able to satisfy demand through production limitations.

Its share of the UK cigarette market slipped from 38.4 per cent to 37.6 per cent during the six months, even though its

Lambert & Butler brand overtook Benson & Hedges for the first time.

Mr Davis blamed the overall decline in the UK market on "punitive" tax increases in successive Budgets. The result was a thriving trade in cheap cigarettes smuggled from overseas.

Profit from overseas opera-



Gareth Davis: punitive tax

tions advanced by 25 per cent, to £45 million. A sharp increase in profits from Spain offset a more difficult time in Far Eastern markets, where airports were particularly affected by the area's economic crisis.

The strength of sterling shaved around £4 million from the profits, but around £2 million of this was recovered by falling prices in tobacco leaf.

The results did not include any contribution from Douwe Egberts Van Nelle, the Dutch tobacco business it has agreed to buy for £652 million. The integration is due in July.

The company said that its Douwe Egberts acquisition will push the proportion of its overseas profits to more than 30 per cent, against the current 22 per cent.

Earnings were 19.6p (18.6p) a share. The interim dividend rises to 7.6p (7.2p).

Tempus, page 28

Berisford price soars after record figures

By FRASER NELSON

SHARES of Berisford, the kitchens and bathrooms maker, jumped to a new high yesterday after the company returned record underlying profits at the halfway stage.

The shares added 5 1/2p to 248 1/2p yesterday, even though the company warned that the trading environment is likely to "soften in the second half".

A stream of first-time homeowners was credited for a sharp boom in its Magnet consumer products division, where operating profits recovered to £5.9 million — a 69 per cent increase on last time.

Kitchens recorded particularly strong growth, up 11 per cent against the market average of 5 per cent. Joinery sales were up 16 per cent.

The company's Wellbit food service

equipment operation in the US fought off sluggish growth and a decline in Asia to lift like-for-like sales by 4 per cent. Overall sales of the division grew by 15 per cent to £160 million.

Berisford added that its Frymaster business offset a decline in its core US market by new export orders. It is currently targeting doughnut manufacturing in emerging markets.

Overall, profits jumped 50 per cent,

to £21.7 million, before tax and exceptional items. It gained £1.2 million contribution from property disposals.

Tax credits reduced the tax charge to £1.3 million (£2.3 million). Headline earnings jumped to 10.5p (7.2p) a share for the six months to March 28. The interim dividend rose to 3.2p (2p).

Analysts now expect £45 million (£36.9 million) for the full year.

How would you make money on your house without selling it?

- (a) Open the gardens up to the public?
- (b) Convert your garage into a theme park?
- (c) Rent the box room to a South American fugitive?
- (d) Re-mortgage with a Virgin One account?

Your home is usually the most valuable thing you possess, but if it goes up in value the only way you can get your hands on your profit is by selling it. Not only is this a lot of hassle, but even when you've done it you still have to buy another place to live so the money you've made just goes into your next home. With the Virgin One account you can get hold of that money whenever you want. No meetings, no forms. You just write a cheque. And whatever you want to spend the money on, you pay the same competitive rate of interest as your mortgage.

If you have, or are about to buy, a home with a mortgage of at least £50,000, then give us a call on 08456 00 00 01 to find out if we're right for you. The Virgin One account. It's no small change.

The Virgin One account is a secured personal bank account with The Royal Bank of Scotland plc.

Compass strategy changes direction

By ROBERT COLE, CITY CORRESPONDENT

COMPASS GROUP, the fast-growing contract caterer, said it was calling a halt to its policy of aggressive acquisition and intends in future to concentrate on the organic development of its business.

The cost of financing several big deals in the past few years has left it with £848 million of debt — equivalent to more than 100 per cent gearing. Francis Mackay, chief executive, said there may be a few bolt-on acquisitions in the next 18 months, but spending would probably amount to less than £50 million.

Mr Mackay said the com-

pany was generating plenty of cash but the priority was to use the money to invest in its businesses rather than pay off borrowings. He said Compass had already secured a number of new contracts, and extensions to contracts, in the recently acquired operations.

Pre-tax profit in the half year to March 29 were 20 per cent higher at £67.8 million (£56.4 million). Margins, on turnover up 17 per cent to £2.01 billion, improved, and the half-time dividend was lifted 12.9 per cent to 3.5p a share.

Tempus, page 28

Greenalls set to boost investment

By CHRIS AYRES

GREENALLS, the leisure group headed by Lord Daresbury, the former jockey, yesterday reported interim results in line with expectations and said it would raise investment this year by 10 per cent to £220 million.

Pre-tax profits rose 13.4 per cent from £58 million to £65 million on turnover of £474 million, up 13 per cent from £468 million. Basic earnings per share were 17.65p, up 12.7 per cent from 15.65p.

However, the company echoed the worries voiced by Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries on Monday. Lord Daresbury said: "The weather has been difficult and the high street has been getting messages of subdued spending. I think the whole industry felt that."

Greenalls said it would continue to convert its 445 tenanted pubs into franchises, of which it has 938, and invest in its leading brands, which include Millers Kitchen, Ale 'n' Hearty and Henry's.

Lord Daresbury said that the company expected to open 27 large retail outlets by the end of the year, including new hotels at Hexham and Cardiff. An interim dividend of 7.2p, up from 6.7p, will be paid on July 3.

Tempus, page 28

MCIT to simplify capital structure

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

MCIT, the £189 million specialist investment trust that backs leveraged buyouts in the US, is planning to simplify its capital structure and raise £75 million.

The trust wants to abandon its complex "split" structure and replace its four existing classes of shares with one class of ordinary share. MCIT regards the structure as becoming increasingly unworkable and a deterrent to investors as

the trust approaches its wind-up date in 2001.

MCIT wants to merge its 1986 and 1995 funds and convert their shares into an ordinary share with no winding-up date. The trust will be renamed J2 Equity Partners after its fund manager Jordan/Zalaznick Advisers and will seek to raise £75 million from a placing and an open offer.

Tempus, page 28

Next sales recovery lifts shares

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM, RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

SHARES in Next, the clothing retailer that issued a profits warning two months ago, bounced yesterday after the company reported a small improvement in its trading.

David Jones, chief executive, told shareholders at the

has been increased by 11 per cent. Sales in Next Directory are 3 per cent up on a year ago. Taken together, sales are 0.5 per cent higher. The shares rose from 487 1/2p to 52 1/2p.

The company said it is confident it has addressed the selection and merchandising

will be "well placed to resume progress in the autumn".

Analysts said there was some relief that Next had not been forced to make another warning and that there is some evidence of improvement. There was also evidence of a squeeze on the shares, with buyers chasing a limited

one account

08456 00 00 01

direct personal financial service

Open 7 Days a week, 24 Hours a day

Representative only of Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd, which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for life insurance, pensions and unit trust business and represents only the Virgin Direct Marketing Group. Your Virgin One account must be repaid by the time you retire. YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. You can phone for further information or a written quotation at any time. You must be aged 18 or over. An insurance is required. For your security all calls are recorded and randomly monitored. Virgin Direct Personal Finance Ltd, Discovery House, Whiting Rd, Norwich, NR4 6EL.

Still not playing fair after 50 years

The celebrations in Geneva this week for the fiftieth anniversary of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, now incorporated into the World Trade Organisation, will probably be remembered for the fact that Fidel Castro listened to and politely clapped a keynote speech by Bill Clinton but that President Clinton left town before President Castro had delivered his.

Everybody had hoped for a photo of the two men shaking hands or hugging as old comrades were once wont to do. Still, the speeches of both men said a great deal about the issues at stake.

The Cuban leader delivered a coruscating attack on the twin-track campaign for globalisation and free trade that is the driving force of the WTO. He argued that the poor were the losers of both processes and that the WTO should use its energies to prevent "economic genocide", becoming a tool for economic fairness in the world.

President Clinton called on

world leaders to move aggressively, particularly in the area of agriculture, to tear down tariffs and subsidies. The context of his rallying cry was not, however, the poor of whom Fidel Castro spoke. President Clinton was responding to the escalating squabble between America and Europe over export subsidies.

Last winter, wheat prices hit a five-year low and barley prices halved. The European Union promptly brought back subsidies to promote grain exports. Even as President Clinton flew to Geneva, Californian farmers were threatening to block a ship from Finland carrying EU-subsidised barley through the Panama canal. For its part, America has just restored assistance to poultry exporters. This particular trade war is a rich man's game.

The developing world has undoubtedly been a beneficiary of both free trade and globalisation and Nelson Mandela this week said that globalisation was inevitable and had to be accepted. "What happens in Switzerland affects South Africa the same day," he declared.

But the truth is that developing countries have profited from globalisation far less than the richest industrialised nations. World Bank and OECD figures show that the Uruguay Round of Gatt was expected to penalise Africa to the tune of \$2.6 billion by the year 2002.

Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union did a little better, profiting by \$2.2 billion. But such gains are dwarfed by those set to be enjoyed by America's \$18.8 billion, China's \$37.0 billion and

the EU, with a jackpot win of \$80.7 billion.

President Mandela may be justified in his fatalism about globalisation but he cannot rest easy while the rules of agricultural trade are so stacked against his country and others in the developing world.

In a briefing paper prepared for the WTO anniversary, Oxfam offers the example of canned tomatoes, the subject of a 1997 report by the Fruit and Vegetable Canning Industry Task Team. It found that South Africa, which had liberalised in preparation for a free trade agreement with Europe, was being flooded by subsidised European canned tomatoes. This had already led to the loss of 2,000 seasonal jobs and 400 permanent jobs in the tomato canning industry and would continue to close down canners. European tomato growers received a subsidy of 384 million euro in 1996 alone.

Since the 1994 agricultural agreement of the Uruguay Round, subsidies have increased. According to figures provided by Oxfam, in 1995 the industrialised countries collectively spent \$182 billion on subsidies, equivalent to 41 per cent of the value of production.



JANET BUSH

The EU is a quite dreadful example of restrictive trade practices in agriculture which, after all, is about food, that most basic of commodities, the determinant, bluntly, of life and death.

OECD figures show that in 1996 alone, subsidies to farmers in the EU totalled \$85 billion. Of this, \$35 billion is paid by the consumer in the form of higher prices due to various forms of protectionism. About \$50 billion comes from the European taxpayer, who has to fund export subsidies, schemes that buy surplus produce at guaranteed prices and special schemes such as "set aside".

The OECD's 1997 report on agricultural policies in the industrialised world found that the level of subsidies to farmers in the EU had scarcely budged over the last decade despite commitments to dismantle protectionism. However, America cannot justify sitting itself on the moral high ground. The amount of transfers to its agricultural sector is estimated to have risen to \$68 billion in 1996, a 10 per cent increase on a year earlier.

Driving through hundreds of kilometres of abundant fields in France last Saturday, I found it hard not to remember that, in Birmingham, a human chain surrounded the conference building housing the summit of the Group of Eight, demanding more generous debt relief for the Third World.

The thought occurred that stripping European farmers of their subsidies for a single year would pay off almost a third of the entire accumulated debt stock of the 41 poorest countries of the world. This modest proposal might mean a lot of burning lorries on the autoroutes but it would do wonders for the prospects of the developing world.

Ulster's damaged fortress builds to cast off a troubled legacy

Investment can shore up the peace process, Christine Buckley reports

Paddy Doherty looks out on the Londonderry skyline from the Irish heritage centre he will open next month with a greater hope for the future of Northern Ireland than he has been able to muster in many years. "The feeling that things are changing is tangible. People want it to happen, they want to look forward to better times."

The 72-year-old former builder and civil rights activist has seen the shape of the city change incredibly over the past 30 years. As founder of the Inner City Trust, a building and regeneration business, he has contributed to that change.

Londonderry is one of Europe's oldest surviving fully walled cities. But at the height of the Troubles a third of the buildings within the walls had been bombed. Mr Doherty's vision was to rebuild after the devastation, making use of some of the vast numbers of unemployed young people. He had left Londonderry to work for Wimpey in the West Indies in the late 1960s after losing his job as a builder because his Protestant boss could not tolerate his civil rights activities. He returned after Bloody Sunday, which had left 14 people killed by the British Army in Londonderry in 1972.

As a republican who wanted to rebuild after the work of the bombers, he was attacked by both sides.

Republicans who saw the bombing of economic targets as fundamental to their campaign condemned him as a counter-revolutionary. Protestants claimed he got the place bombed so he could create jobs for Catholics.

He weathered the cross-community onslaught because of a passion for his city, steadily turning into rubble, and because he believed work would restore some hope to the vast numbers of long-term unemployed in the Bogside and the Creggan, the sprawling west-city areas that are two



Londonderry was devastated by the Troubles but inward investment has improved prospects for the city's youth

of the IRA's fiercest strongholds.

"Conditions were terrible in Derry," Mr Doherty said. "Many people couldn't get work, had no prospect of working whatsoever and you could see that their anger was just going to erupt."

Over the years and amid the Troubles, hundreds of young people have passed through the trust and the city is a physically transformed place.

But the need for greater employment in Londonderry remains huge. In parts of the city and the surrounding area there are families which are second- and third-generation unemployed. In some areas unemployment is more than 60 per cent, while the region has average joblessness of more than 11 per cent — higher than the rest of Ulster, which stands at 8 per cent.

Lack of work is one of the problems that has helped to strengthen the divides already created by history, politics and religion. It is another important factor that turns commu-

nities into ghettos and reinforces a sense of siege — something for which Londonderry is infamous. In the spring sun in the Bogside, people congregate on street corners with time on their hands. This is "Free Derry", a republican enclave which, after the Battle of the Bogside in 1969, became a virtual no-go area for the RUC. Many homes are still fortress-like with wire mesh over windows.

But the massive unemployment that shrouds the Bogside and the Creggan is something that politicians and business people believe can be turned into an opportunity on the back of the peace process.

While many areas in the UK experience near-full employment and watch earnings spiral in certain sectors such as electronics, Londonderry has a large available workforce. The local council and Northern Ireland's Industrial Development Board are currently negotiating not only with potential new inward investment companies but also busi-

nesses they hope to encourage to relocate from areas such as southeast England, where skills and would-be workers are at a premium.

Commerce and politicians are operating at full tilt to try to encourage business to locate in the region and to help to shore up the peace process. Londonderry will have to try harder than other areas. The city suffers more than Belfast because of its remote location. Situated on the northwest tip of the Province, it has no rail link with Belfast and is one of the few cities in Europe not to be served by a dual carriageway road. It has a tiny airport with limited services. The road-building projects announced by the Chancellor in his aid package for Northern Ireland will help traffic to Londonderry by alleviating congestion through a town that lies between it and Belfast. But the area still lacks infrastructure.

Ian Young, president of the

local chambers of commerce, believes the Government needs to make a commitment to more transport development in order to encourage new business. He, like the majority of businesspeople in Northern Ireland, is confident that there would be an influx of investment following a convincing "yes" vote in Friday's referendum, once overseas business has had time to see that peace is enduring.

Much of the hope for inward investment lies directly west of Londonderry, in the United States. The city has close links with the US largely because of the efforts of John Hume, the SDLP leader and local MP, who was one of the main catalysts for the peace process. Mr Hume is credited with taking the first delegation of unionist and nationalist business interests to the US to show potential investors that the two communities share some common aspirations — a desire for economic improvement being the main one.

Northern Ireland business-

es believe that the Chancellor's £315 million package for the Province will soon be matched by a similar fund from the US, once the referendum has been held. If that happens, they believe the foundations can be laid for a complete overhaul of the economy.

American businesses who show interest in Londonderry are whisked up to the DuPont factory, one of the main centres for Lycra production, which last year committed £78 million to a new plant and has importantly set up a research and development facility. DuPont, based outside Londonderry, has sunk a large amount of money and expertise into its textiles and strong materials business. John Anderson, site manager, said the operation has become one of DuPont's most profitable plants because of the attitude of the employees. In its 38 years it has only had one half-day of industrial action.

Londonderry is well placed to benefit from tourism. Apart from the attraction of its old-walled city area, it is only 30 miles from the Giant's Causeway and close to the Republic's county of Donegal. Londonderry, like Belfast, experienced a huge surge in tourism after the 1994 ceasefire although a large amount of that ebbed away again. Like Belfast, it witnessed tourists descending on the flashpoints in taxis to take photographs of the modern-day war zones.

Now, however, the city is squaring up for more solid tourism. Cruise liners have begun stopping at its port. The future augurs well and it is thought that the Londonderry could sustain at least 2,000 new jobs in tourism. Hotels are planned for the city centre.

One of Mr Doherty's next projects is to build a hotel opposite his heritage centre. The foundations have already gone down. So, too, does he believe the foundations have gone down for a prosperous future for Northern Ireland.

"I am delighted that Tony Blair has been able to finish what John Major started but couldn't achieve," Mr Doherty said. "I am delighted that Martin McGuinness went along to applaud a British Chancellor when he announced help for Northern Ireland. What we are seeing now has taken a long time to build but there is a feeling that people want it to survive."

Benchmark for Isas will not set the seal on best quality

Governments are poor judges of what is a sound investment, writes Robert Cole

Up to a point the Government's plan to award certain providers of new individual savings accounts seals of official approval is to be welcomed. In establishing a genuine and well-founded savings culture, the so-called Catmark could become a valuable tool.

Encouraging people to save privately is the object of the exercise, and is laudable because private saving to secure financial futures is fairer, and more efficient, than attempting to achieve the same goal through welfare.

Official recognition through the Catmark will engender confidence among buyers and that will increase sales of Isa products and lead to a commensurate rise in the amount of money people put aside for a rainy day.

Under the proposals Catmarks would be handed to Isa providers who comply with prescribed standards on cost, accessibility and terms, hence the Cat acronym. There will be three different types of Cat. One for deposit-based Isas, one for those linked with insurance, and another for Isa involved in stocks and shares.

All well and good. Banks, building societies and fund management houses have shown themselves more than willing to squeeze unreasonable profit from savers, and thereby hinder the efforts of people to look after themselves. Firms have also conspired to deny savers access to their money, they have overdeveloped products, and have bamboozled customers with impenetrable terms and conditions.

But the designers of Catmarks go too far when they address Isas holding stocks and shares. Catmarks for equity Isas will only be granted for unit trusts and open-ended investment companies where the underlying investment tracks a general, UK-based index.

Investment trusts and actively managed unit trusts are among those to be left out in the cold. Without a Catmark, investment trusts and active fund managers will suffer terribly for no better reason than they are difficult to fit into Cat classifications. That, and the fact that they have been on the wrong side of recent investment fashion trends.

There is no cogent argument that makes tracker unit trust funds innately superior to active funds.

Tracker are not necessarily

worse. Their cheapness does confer advantage and their relative simplicity also makes them suitable for novice investors. But none of these considerations merit giving tracker unit trusts the kind of competitive advantage written into the current Catmark proposals. Cheapness, it should also be remembered, does not always equate to good value.

There is also the danger that by using the same kind of Catmarking system for deposit, insurance and equity Isas consumers will perceive that the risks involved in each type are similar.

It is not the place of the Government to decide what is, and what is not, a good investment. Like it or not, that is exactly how the Catmarks will be interpreted, certainly by consumers. Cost accessibility and terms are quite different to risk evaluations and product suitability.

Government personnel, remember, are largely career politicians or career civil servants. Neither group has any obvious penchant for investment analysis. One only needs to think back to the mid-1980s and the government's very real role in the pension mis-selling scandal to appreciate how powerful, and dangerous, official endorsement can be.

It is preferable to encourage individuals to bear the responsibility for their own investment decisions. For deposit and insurance-based Isas Catmarks could perform a useful role, helping individuals help themselves, but for equity Isas Catmarks could distort the retail savings marketplace and may even mislead.

If trackers are handed a wholly unfair, Cat-inspired sales boost their most serious flaw — that they chase prices higher by directing flows of money at stock exchanges — will be surely emphasised, and serve only to desubstantiate share markets. That would do no one any good, nor would the loss of investment trusts and active fund management styles as heavyweight players in retail savings.

A way needs to be found to bring investment trusts and active funds within the Cat framework. Cat markers also need to be able to appreciate that wider qualitative assessments of schemes is more important than a product's ability to meet a set of arbitrary, pre-written rules.

Farmer's crop

THERE is a persistent story doing the rounds in Edinburgh that one of Scotland's richest entrepreneurs, Sir Tom Farmer, of Kwik-Fit, is about to rescue Pierre Victoire. This restaurant chain is based in Edinburgh and was put up for sale for £15 million in February. Since when little has been heard except for the departure of the man appointed as chairman to handle the sale.

Pierre Victoire has twice failed to float on the AIM, an achievement that must rank with failing your home economics GCSE twice. Farm-

er says he has not been offered the chain. But he has put some private venture capital into a catering company called The Bistro, run by an energetic individual called Liz McAreavey. He also has a couple of financial advisers chasing out investment opportunities on his behalf, and he says one of them may have made an approach. "I've no time to look at anything else but Kwik-Fit," he says. "Nobody's given me a proposition. I wouldn't know enough about it."

RICHARD NICHOLS, the Lord Mayor of London, was at a seminar in Madrid yesterday and was asked whether he would be the last mayor of the City. He realised that the question was a reference to the recent referendum and explained that his post was an entirely separate and much older one. But he was surprised how widespread the awareness of the forthcoming mayoral election was in Spain. There is only one possible explanation. Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare's plane must briefly have touched down on the tarmac.

Filter tip

AM I the only one already bored with the World Cup? Even TV dinners



play with matches.) "I can't see it happening," mused Davis yesterday. "But I might dream about it." I suggest he makes the approach. Gaza is easily thick enough to accept without considering the consequences.

A COMPLAINT from a reader about the Thomson Travel share offer. Such events are about as rare as hangovers on a Club 18-30 holiday, but this one is upset at the money Thomson is keeping back from people who apply for £500-worth of shares. The mathematics of the issue mean all applicants receive shares worth exactly £499.80, so it is not felt worthwhile to return the balance. Some 220,000 investors sent in £500 each, which is a few bob towards postage costs. If they complain to NatWest Stockbrokers, they are told to ring Thomson. Ring the Thomson helpline, and they tell you to ring NatWest. Still, take care of the pennies...

Hurd instinct

AN ELEGANT magazine arrives offering investment possibilities in one of the few untapped emerging markets in Eastern Europe. "1998 — The Year of Growth, Stability and Reform," it promises. And a peculiarly chilling chapter titled "The Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia", which one would think recent history has made self-explanatory. But it sets

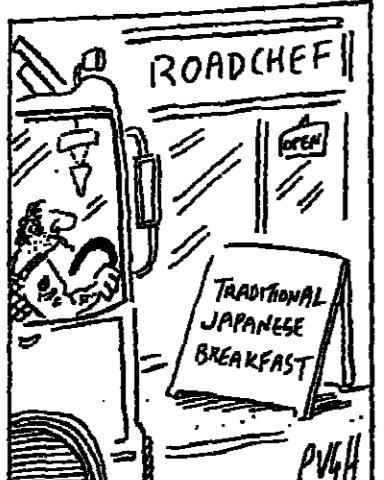
me to wondering whatever happened to Serbia's own financial ambassador in the West, Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary.

He joined NatWest as deputy chairman of NatWest Markets and stitched up that deal to privatise the country's telecoms system. NWM's disappearance would seem to leave him at a loose end, except that the Old Eltonian is still on the board of NatWest Group and helps out at the corporate advisory business. And Lord Hurd of Westwell will today by a happy coincidence be named as deputy chairman of Coutts, the posh people's bank. So things seem to have turned out all right for him.

MARTIN WALLER



Pointed: Lord Hurd of Westwell



Storms give Royal & Sun zero operating profit

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

BAD weather, the strong pound and the cost of buying back its convertible bonds reduced Royal & Sun Alliance's operating profits to zero in the first three months of the year, the insurer revealed yesterday.

Operating profits before tax and exceptional items slid from £195 million to £138 million as worldwide weather losses rose £37 million to £96 million and the strength of sterling knocked

profits by a further £16 million. These profits were wiped out after the company incurred a £138 million exceptional cost of buying back an issue of maturing convertibles. It only went into the black on the back of a £105 million gain on its investments.

RSA shares rose 15p on the results. They peaked at 806p earlier this year. Paul Spencer, the group finance director, said: "The increase in weather costs is part of the ups and

downs of the insurance business. Shareholders understand the cost of buying back the convertibles is a one off and that our balance sheet remains strong."

In its general business RSA saw net premiums rise slightly to £1.77 billion while underwriting losses leaped from £105 million to £158 million.

Profits in the UK slumped from £42 million to £29 million as weather losses rose £11 million to £66 million

and subsidence losses increased by £8 million to £34 million. A further £45 million of claims from the Easter floods is expected to hit results in the second quarter. The company is preparing to increase its rates.

In Canada the insurer broke even after the effect of the winter ice storms produced £15 million of losses. In the USA, improved returns in personal lines and commercial property were balanced by huge losses in commercial motor and

general liability which reduced profits by £9 million to £42 million.

Profits from RSA's long-term life and pensions business rose by 4 per cent to £99 million worldwide. In the UK it achieved a 7 per cent rise in profits and a 34 per cent increase in new business on an annual premium equivalent basis.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

New pubs firm buys 40 Beefeater houses

WHITBREAD is raising £36 million through the sale of 40 Beefeater restaurants, it was announced yesterday. They have been bought by Crowded House, a new pub company backed by NatWest Equity Partners (NWP). The firm, which is seeking further acquisitions, will develop the restaurants under its own brand, Bernard Wright, the managing director of the company, said the restaurants were "the finest selection of food-led properties to have been made available in recent years".

NWP is investing £11.1 million in the business, which is also being supported by Legal & General Ventures and Bank of Scotland. Whitbread said the sale was in line with its strategy to dispose of non-core assets, which raised £44 million last year. David Thomas, the chief executive of Whitbread, said the outlets were profitable but no longer fitted Beefeater's brand profile. The company said it remained committed to the Beefeater brand, with six new sites due to open in the current financial year and another ten sites acquired for completion in 1999.

Chesterfield talks off

SHARES in Chesterfield Properties fell 30p to 612½p after the company said bid talks over an offer for the company had been called off. Robert Maxted, the chief executive of Chesterfield, said that the company had been unable to agree a price with the unnamed bidder, which was said by some analysts to have been MEPC. Earlier in the day Chesterfield revealed a rise in pre-tax profits to £3.69 million from £1.76 million. The final dividend is unchanged at 9p making a total of 13.4p for the year. The net asset value rises 16 per cent to 612p.

Portfolio aids Helphire

HELPHIRE, the credit repair service for motorists, raised profits from £1.06 million to £2.5 million in the year to the end of March on sales up from £10 million to £25.5 million. Earnings per share rose from 8.7p to 10.9p out of which a maiden total dividend of 1.2p will be paid. The final dividend is 0.8p a share. Michael Symons, the chief executive, said that the legal expense insurance portfolio which the company acquired earlier this year from the Legal Recovery Group will make a positive contribution to results in the current year. The shares fell from 475p to 451p.

Shani issues warning

SHARES in Shani, the clothing and footwear group, fell from 66½p to 54½p after the company warned the market that trading within its coats division for the first six months of the current financial year "is likely to result in the group reporting a higher than expected loss for the period". Shani said that the problem was caused by the strength of the pound combined with the mild winter weather. It added that it had drawn attention to these two sources of concern in its annual report. Shani said it was hoping, however, for a similar second half to last year.

US firm chases GTI

TELEMETRIX, the UK electronic components and test equipment group, said GTI Corporation, its 57 per cent owned US subsidiary, has received a \$38 million (£23.8m) takeover bid from Technitrol Inc. of America. GTI shares trade on America's Nasdaq exchange. Yesterday GTI reported a first quarter loss of \$5.49 million, after a \$1.5 million charge relating to a factory closure and a \$99,000 charge relating to accounting changes. This compared with net income of \$188,000 in the previous first-quarter.

Care UK advances

CARE UK, the health outsourcing company, raised pre-tax profits to £2.4 million from £1.9 million, on sales up from £12.4 million to £18.8 million, in the six months to March 31. Earnings rose from 3.81p to 4.50p and the interim dividend from 0.4p to 0.5p. The company said: "Our businesses all have outsourcing contracts with either the NHS, NHS Trusts or Social Services. With a number of contracts expected to contribute in the next two years, we look forward to the future with confidence." The shares rose 2½p to 177½p.

ScS set for expansion

SCS UPHOLSTERY reported a maiden £1.55 million pre-tax profit for the six months to the end of March. The figure compares with the £1.1 million for the previous first half, achieved before the December flotation. Sales rose from £10.3 million to £14.4 million and earnings from 2.1p to 2.6p. There is an interim dividend of 1.1p. Tony McCann, the chairman, said: "ScS remains strongly committed to an expansion plan with the goal of becoming a major national specialist furniture retailer."

Enterprise drinkers up

ENTERPRISE INNS raised pre-tax profits before exceptional items by 61 per cent to £10.1 million in the six months to the end of March on sales up 52 per cent to £36 million. Earnings per share, before exceptional items, rose from 10.1p to 11.7p out of which the half-year dividend rose from 2.5p to 2.8p. The results include six months of the Discovery Inns estate and of 94 pubs acquired from Whitbread. Gearing of 126 per cent is expected to fall during the second half because of cash flow and disposals. The shares rose 5p to 366½p.

Merchant rises 72%

MERCHANT RETAIL GROUP raised pre-tax profits by 72 per cent to £3.04 million in the year to March 28 on sales up 11 per cent to £67.4 million. Earnings rose 66 per cent to 2.38p out of which the total dividend rose from 0.25p to 0.5p after payment of a 0.4p final. Like-for-like sales rose 19 per cent and seven new stores were opened in the year. There are now 38 stores and a further ten new ones are planned for the current year. The company operates under The Perfume Shop and Joplings names. The shares rose 2½p to 55p.

Cash boost lifts price of British Energy

By CARL MORTSHED

BRITISH ENERGY could accumulate a £300 million cash mountain by the end of this year unless the nuclear power generator finds a home for its investment ambitions.

Shares in the utility jumped 18½p to 563½p after the company announced a 10p-a-share supplementary dividend and a doubling of pre-tax profit to £191 million. A surge in cash flow has left British Energy with no debt and liquid funds of £10 million at the year end.

John Robb, British Energy's chairman, said the special dividend payout of £69 million was a result of a renegotiation of its spent fuel processing contract with BNFL. The deal will lead to a £1.1 billion reduction in projected payments for its waste fuel liabilities and British Energy is taking £110 million as an exceptional credit as it relates to fuel burnt in previous years.

Mr Robb said British Energy would continue to review its capital structure in the light of the strong cash flow and could make further special payouts. He said: "One of the many strengths of British Energy is its cash flow. The longer-term prospects of the company will be determined by how successfully this cash is deployed."

The utility is in negotiations with Ontario Hydro with a view to making a joint offer

with PECO Energy of Philadelphia to take over the Canadian province's 14,000 megawatts of nuclear plant. The deal would equate to British Energy's existing nuclear capacity in the UK.

In addition, the joint venture, Amergen, is in talks with GPU over a reactor at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania. British Energy said it was now Britain's largest generator, after rivals were forced to reduce capacity. Last year's profit increase reflected both cost improvements and a slight increase in electricity prices. However, Mr Robb said that the company expected a resumption of the long-term decline in energy prices.

Higher sales generated about £33 million of increased profit but most of the gain came from a £96 million reduction in operating costs, including a £38 million decline in back-end fuel costs after the deal with BNFL and a £28 million one-off fall in material and service costs. The depreciation charge on British Energy's huge asset base has also been cut as a result of an increase in the estimated life of its power stations.

British Energy is paying a full-year dividend of 14.7p, up 7 per cent and covered 1.2 times by earnings.



Hozelock, the garden equipment group, said the wettest April this century had led to a slow start in the second half. David Codling, chief executive, said pre-tax profit in the six months to March 28 fell to £2.1 million (£3.1 million on sales of £24.3 million (£22 million). Most of the fall was blamed on the strong pound. The interim dividend is being held at 3.4p a share.

Second rescue deal for Crédit Lyonnais

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

THE European Commission will today approve a second rescue package for France's Crédit Lyonnais bank ending a saga that has lasted five years and cost French taxpayers about Fr5,000 (£500) each.

Under the deal the French government has pledged to privatise the institution next year and sell assets in Europe, Asia and North America worth Fr20 billion.

In return for approving state aid likely to reach at least Fr50 billion, the Commission demanded measures to prevent the bank gaining an unfair advantage over competitors. It will have to pay 58 per cent of profits to shareholders until 2003 and limit growth to 3.2 per cent until 2001.

Today's decision is likely to lead to what analysts say will be a "spectacular sale" as the French Finance Ministry pares down the institution before privatisation. Although the bank will maintain activities in London, Zurich and Frankfurt, it will have to divest itself of other European subsidiaries worth about Fr529 billion and sell assets worth Fr64 billion in Asia and North America and Fr27 billion in France.

Dominique Strauss-Kahn, France's Finance Minister, has promised to cut the state's stake to a maximum 10 per cent before October 31, 1999.

After the bank's disastrous financial position came to light in the early 1990s, a rescue package was agreed in 1995 but this proved insufficient, forcing Paris and Brussels to negotiate a second.

Tunstall directors receive go-ahead for £53m buyout

By MARTIN BARROW

DIRECTORS of Tunstall have launched a £53 million takeover bid for their alarm and emergency communications company after almost seven months of negotiations.

Michael Dawson, chairman, yesterday announced a 160p a share cash offer, against Monday's closing price of 129p.

The offer represents a premium of 109 per cent over the closing price of 76½p on October 1, the day before a sharp rise in the share price

forced Tunstall's management to confirm it was investigating the possibility of an offer.

Mr Dawson and Simon Atwell, finance director, speak for 39.4 per cent of the shares and have given an undertaking to accept the offer even in the event of a competing bid. A number of institutional shareholders have also given undertakings to accept the offer while reserving the right to consider a higher bid.

Shares in Tunstall have fallen from a high of 380p in early 1997, because of difficulties in its main markets of the UK and Germany, aggravated by the strength of sterling. Problems were compounded by production problems at its Micron subsidiary, a contract electronics manufacturer.

In the year to September 30, 1997, Tunstall saw pre-tax profits halve to £4.1 million. Yesterday the company reported interim pre-tax profits of £3.1 million, up from £2.9 million. The interim dividend was unchanged at 1.85p.

Green pursues Trafford Park with increased bid

By GEORGE SIVELL

GREEN PROPERTY, the Dublin group, announced a £146 million bid for Trafford Park Estates, the Manchester company, yesterday. Trafford rejected a £141 million approach by Green last week, and now it has told shareholders to take no action.

Green has been keen to talk to Trafford since January but felt it was not being fully considered by the Trafford board and appears to have pressed ahead with a potentially hostile formal offer. Yesterday's bid values Trafford at 212p in shares or 190p in cash. The bid is conditional on Trafford Park's £26.7 million bid for Barlow, a small north-west property company, not going ahead.

Green, the largest property group in the Irish Republic, has its assets split between the UK and the republic. Stephen Vernon, the managing director of Green, took over in 1993 since when the company has grown from a stock market value of £10 million to £370 million. Mr Vernon said: "The acquisition of Trafford Park Estates is in line with our strategy to increase our industrial holdings in the UK. We have structured the offer so that shareholders who wish to do so can participate in the future combined group."

Trafford Park said: "The board is currently considering this offer. It will make an announcement in due course." Shares in Trafford Park rose 11½p to 191p. Green were unchanged 461p.

ABP acquires American operator

By FRASER NELSON

ASSOCIATED British Ports, the £1.4 billion docks company, is to operate overseas for the first time through the £107 million acquisition of American Port Services.

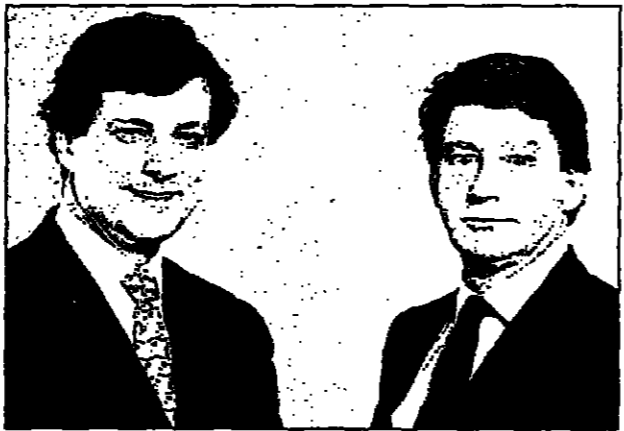
The deal will add £950,000 to the fortune of Luke Johnson, founder of PizzaExpress, who helped APS become America's largest private port operator through acquisitions.

Tim Chadwick, founder and chairman of APS, stands to make £3.5 million by agreeing to the deal - which values the shares at 190p. Other directors will make £1.6 mil-

lion in cash by selling their shares. Jacobs Holdings, which had been building up a 10 per cent stake in APS, is expected to make a profit of more than £2 million.

ABP, whose managing director is Andrew Smith, will also acquire contracts to run a US airport.

APS, formerly named Benicia Ports, floated in London three years ago because there are no quoted dock operators in the US. Its shares, which traded at 115p two months ago, added 6½p to 186p yesterday.



Andrew Smith, left, and Tim Chadwick, chairman of APS

Accountancy merger to be cleared today

By ROBERT BRUCE

THE creation of the world's largest accountancy firm is set to jump its final regulatory hurdle today. Competition authorities in the European Commission are expected to announce at noon that the merger of Coopers & Lybrand and Price Waterhouse has been approved.

This will bring months of speculation to an end and allow the firms to fulfil the date of July 1 as the start of their operation as a merged firm. The new firm, with some £8.2 billion in fees, will immediately rocket into the lead of what now becomes the accountancy profession's "Big Five", with its nearest global rivals Ernst & Young on £5.7 billion.

The proposed merger received approval from the American regulatory authorities in March, after the collapse the month before of a rival merger between Ernst & Young and KPMG. Until that point the European regulatory authorities had been seen as a tough hurdle.

3Com U.S. Robotics

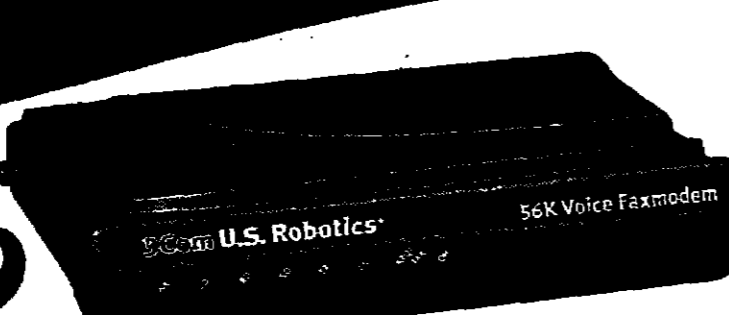
£119

RRP INC. VAT

PC Compatible only

V.90- It's Here Now!

BE THE FASTEST WITH OUR 56K* VOICE FAXMODEM!



3Com U.S. Robotics 56K* Voice Fax Modem is the latest addition to the World's most popular modem range. Incorporating Flash memory, Voice FaxModem users can download any future upgrades, directly from the 3Com website, Free of Charge!

3Com 56

STANDARD COMPLIANT V.90

- E-mail, Fax and Voice facilities
- Data speeds at up to 56Kbps*
- Internet ready - free trials included: Virgin Net, Netcom, AOL, CompaServe and BT.
- Cables & Connectors included
- Free Lifetime Technical Support.
- BABT approved and Lifetime Warranty

3Com

*Due to varying line conditions, the download speeds you experience may be lower.

FOR MORE DETAILS FREEPHONE: 0800 22 52 52 www.3com.co.uk/times/

Main table containing unit trust prices, organized into columns with headers like 'Fund Name', 'Bid', 'Offer', and 'Change'. Includes various fund categories such as Equity, Bond, and Money Market.

Birmingham welcomes the CBI Conference for the fourth year out of five. (It seems British industry really knows where it's going.) the icc birmingham

Advertisement for a bed gallery, featuring a large image of a bed and text: '1 BED GALLERY 2 BATH GALLERY'.

Vertical text on the left margin: 'The Birmingham Business Journal'.

Small text at the bottom right: 'Source: FT Information'.

The right side of the road is vital to the value of your house, writes Rachel Kelly

A des res streets ahead of the rest

Curtains are starting to twitch. An unofficial survey has revealed the right and the wrong sides of Britain's best-known streets. No longer will it be possible to impress by saying you live in Eaton Square. The question will be: which side?

For these distinctions, we must thank Anthony Lassman, who has sold houses in Belgravia, Knightsbridge and Kensington for 20 years and has now hung up his estate agency board in favour of property developing, with his wife Elaine, an interior decorator. A keen sense of geographical snobbery is essential for his trade. For the rest of us the differences between prices on the right and the wrong side of the street can be useful — both for those seeking bargains and those prepared to pay for status.

One might assume that South Eaton Place, for example, would be an address smart enough for most. But Mr Lassman reports that only on the west side of the road, which is an extension of Eaton Square, do houses really enjoy cachet. He explains: "These houses are really an extension of Eaton Square because there is no break between the houses on Eaton Square's southwest corner and the west side of South Eaton Place. To the rear, these houses have a leafy outlook over Minerva Mews, one of Belgravia's prettiest, and are highly desirable."

But on the east side of South Eaton Place, the houses back on to Eaton Square garage, which occupies an entire side of Eaton Mews West.

The garage is topped with a corrugated roof. There is probably a million pounds between houses on the west side (where they cost £2.5 million) and the east side,

where they cost £1.5 million. Similar differences are repeated throughout the capital. Those who live on the south side of Thurloe Square in South Kensington own houses that cost half as much again as those across the square, where properties sell at £2 million because a Tube line runs underneath the back gardens. In nearby Alexander Square, beneath one end of which the Underground also runs, the inconvenience is less. Rebecca Read of the Cluttons Daniel Smith estate agency says: "Only if you know about it already — and you stand very still — can you hear a faint rumbling."

Gardens make a huge difference to the desirability of a property. In Redcliffe Square, Peter Rollings of Foxtons estate agents points out that a two-bedroom flat on the church side of the square recently sold for £370,000 and



On the costlier sides: north Eaton Square, and, below, the south side of Thurloe Square, South Kensington

The houses on the crescent trade for about £1 million more than those in noisy Ladbroke Grove. Many of the Grove houses are divided into flats.

One garden resident, who preferred not to be named, claims that there are tensions in the back garden as a result. "One side is a world of Norfolk Nannies in starched uniforms and American investment bankers," she says.

do with people's expectations. Snobbishness is not quite the right word, but people apply certain connotations. "Though houses on both sides are of the same era, size and style, one set lies in the so-called Duchy. The Duchy is a set of late Victorian and early Edwardian houses built on land that once belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster. This background is what gives the area its prestige, and the houses their inflated prices."

"There are certain areas that are considered the place to live in, and it shows in the price," Mr Goodwin says. "Basically, though, you have to cur your cloth. We ended up with what we wanted, without living in the salubrious Duchy area."

There are few differences between people living on either side of the road, according to Mr Goodwin, although there is an assumption that "these people must have money; they must have made it. They'll usually have a slightly more affluent lifestyle, but that's about it."

"Though there is definitely a cachet to living on the Duchy, there is no obvious one-upmanship."

But as for Eaton Square, my dear, the north side is streets ahead.



Additional research by Helen Castell

'One assumes that these people have money, that they must have made it'

that the same flat on the garden side would fetch £425,000.

In Sloane Court West, properties on only one side have direct access to a communal garden. Prices here for a 2,500 sq ft flat are around £900,000, which is about 25 per cent more than on the other side.

Further west, the communal gardens of the Ladbroke Estate near Notting Hill are riddled with subtle distinctions between those that face the leafy green. Take the gardens of Stanley Crescent.

"The other of au pair girls, working mums and more arty types. The two do not mix."

Nor are such snobberies confined to London. John Goodwin, a 49-year-old planner, recently discovered that if he wanted to live on one side of Ripon Street in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, it would cost him an extra £55,000. The Victorian semi he eventually bought on the other side of the street for £145,000 seemed identical to its more expensive neighbours. So why the difference?

Mr Goodwin says: "It has to

Pastiche takes pride of place

Diana Wildman on the property market's love affair with the past

PASTICHE architecture is winning planning permission throughout London. Nervous councillors are approving schemes that blend with existing period architecture rather than risk debate on more adventurous developments.

A blot on the landscape on Clapham Common West Side was an ugly Sixties-built school that broke the line of Victorian villas fronting it. Now Rialto Homes is building 50 houses, including eight overlooking the common. The exteriors have been designed to fit in with those already standing. At first glance, the red brick, slate roofs, wrought-iron balconies and etched-glass panels on the street doors seem the same as the originals. But there are late 20th-century touches, including integral garages, which was a planning requirement, double glazing and en suite bathrooms as standard.

"The integral look, however, is Victorian," says Jonathan Seal from Hampsons. "This is a conservation area lived in by high-flyers who own a valuable asset they do not wish to spoil. The London Borough of Wandsworth was keen to keep these values high and thought that a pastiche design would enhance the area."

About 40 of the 50 three- to five-bedroom houses have sold off-plan, some are occupied and all will be completed this month. The large five-bedroom homes are expected to sell for about £800,000.

In Wandsworth, Barratt has won planning consent to transform another former school site into a square of traditionally styled town houses called Trinity Square.

This is on a three-quarter

acre site around Beechcroft Road, where the 63 houses are priced between £155,000 and £350,000.

The formal Georgian-style square will be flanked on three sides by terraces of classically styled three-storey town houses with detached houses on the fourth side. All the homes will be built in yellow brick, with white rendering and black ironwork, and each will have a spacious garden.

In Docklands, demand is high for traditional East End flat-fronted terrace cottages. Barratts is building a range of three and four-bedroom, two-storey homes at Commercial Wharf between the Limehouse Cut and the Grand Union Canal. Prices range from about £100,000 to £275,000 with first completions by late summer.

North of Regents Park stands a cobbled, gated, mews complete with window boxes and arched doorways. Until recently, this site contained a row of dreary garages.

PARK Village Mews is now a new residential area 100 yards from the park and adjacent to Park Village West, a collection of Grade I listed houses owned by the Crown Estate. Two of the four-bedroom mews houses are for sale through Kerr-Gilchrist at £795,000 each.

Mark Chadwick of Berkeley Homes recently completed and sold a typical London street, at Upper Hampstead Walk, that reflected the local architecture. He says: "Not every site can be developed into traditional London-style streets and squares. Sometimes the shape is against it, or the density precludes it. But we do try to develop in this style where possible and it always proves extremely popular."

'Not every site can be developed into a traditional street'

Adam Barnard on an ancient estate with a deer park and shooting rights

Priority with a riotous past

THE writer, fighter and decadent MP, Somerset de Chair, had four wives, countless mistresses and a lifestyle worthy of one of Evelyn Waugh's young sparks. But his Essex estate, for all the flamboyance of its former owner, remains unsold.

St Osyth Priory, 383 tranquil acres centred on a 13th-century chapel and a 16th-century tower, was put on the market a year ago. The estate agents Bidwells offered it in five lots with a guide price for the whole of £2.3 million. But 22 listed buildings, a deer park, formal gardens and shooting rights have failed to find a buyer.

The politician and philanthropist, who died in 1995 aged 83, was said to have had two passions in his life — women and property. Before his death, he divided his time between St Osyth, Bourne Park, near Canterbury; a London home, and a colonial house near New York. He bought St Osyth, which is near Clacton-on-Sea in Essex, with his second wife in 1953 and embarked on a programme of restoration. By 1981, his art collection had grown too large for the priory and he and his wife (by then his fourth) acquired Bourne Park to house it.

Mr de Chair had a good start in life. His father — one of Sir John Jellicoe's admirals at the Battle of Jutland in 1916 and later Governor of New South Wales — gave him an annual income of £400 a year and an open-topped Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost. Visits to parties in London became a regular feature of his time at Balliol College.



St Osyth Priory: 383 tranquil acres centred on a 13th-century chapel



Parties and politics: de Chair

Later, as a soldier in Palestine, he fell for "Leuscha", a mysterious Slav with whom he wrote in a sonnet: "Alone to look on her, made men desire / And those who knew her felt a slumbering fire."

In 1950 Mr de Chair became MP for South Paddington but his innumerable liaisons proved his downfall. His mistress at the time, Carmen Appleton, became pregnant and his wife learnt about it, and

went public. He was forced to give up his seat — and more or less obliged to marry Miss Appleton.

A secluded country retreat must have seemed an attractive proposition for the couple, who moved to St Osyth in 1951. He remarried in 1958 and finally, in 1974, wed the former wife of the Marquess of Bristol.

Mr de Chair was already known for his love of property when he bought the priory for about £30,000. He had previously owned Chilham Castle in Kent and Terence Manor in Cornwall. At St Osyth, he worked with Darcy Braddell, a well-known architect, to restore the Gate House, its principal residence. Mr Braddell was himself a feature of the priory's colourful history. His ancestor, Lord Darcy, acquired much of the land in 1550, adding to the priory, founded in

1121 by the Bishop of London. Lord Darcy built the Abbott's Tower, which has views over the entire estate, and the Great Hall, later destroyed by fire. Across the central lawns from the Gate House is the Darcy House, with its extravagant first-floor drawing room named in tribute to the family. The second Lord Darcy entertained Queen Elizabeth there.

Bidwells has recently relaunched the property and Jonathan Veale, from the agency, says it is generating great interest. He claims that the lack of a sale has been caused by problems with possible buyers. Mr Veale says: "We had some bogus buyers at the start. Then it was under offer for seven months, but the purchaser could not secure the funds."

Those unable to meet the £2.3 million price tag are most likely to consider the first lot, for which offers of more than £1.65 million are sought. It contains the main cluster of buildings, including, as well as the Gate House and Darcy House, a 15th-century chapel with medieval floor tiles, a vaulted ceiling and a stained-glass window depicting St Osyth, the virtuous abbess of a seventh-century nunnery.

• Bidwells, 01473-611 644

PRIZE DRAW AND OFFER THE TIMES

FLY BRITISH MIDLAND FROM £60 RETURN

throughout the UK and Europe from just £60 return, per person • Choose from nine airports in Britain and Ireland • Enjoy two nights away or more • Fly between July 6 and December 17, 1998



60 years of excellence

HOW TO APPLY You can fly from London Heathrow to Dublin for just £60 return. From Edinburgh or Glasgow you can take a return flight to London for only £60, or fly to Paris for just £117 and to Cologne for only £142. Simply collect 12 differently numbered tokens, 10 from *The Times* and two from *The Sunday Times*, and attach them to an application form. A total of 15 tokens will be printed: 12 in *The Times* until Saturday, May 23 and three in *The Sunday Times* until May 24. One application is valid for two return tickets. Only one application per person and two applications per household are permitted. Applications must be received by Friday June 5, 1998. You will receive a fulfilment pack with a British Midland discount-flight voucher, a timetable and details of how to book your tickets. Allow 28 days for delivery. Bookings must be made between Mon Jun 22 and Fri Jul 31, 1998, at least 14 days before you wish to travel. All flights must originate from the UK or Dublin. All flights to Europe are via Heathrow or East Midlands. This offer is open to UK and Republic of Ireland residents only. It is subject to availability, so book early. The offer is for a minimum two-night stay and two people must travel together. No travel is permitted on any Sunday or on flights departing after 2pm on Fridays. Full terms and conditions appeared in *The Times* on Monday. Inquiries to: British Midland helpline 01455 213443 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm until Tuesday, June 30.

Win one of 500 pairs of tickets in British Midland's Diamond Jubilee prize draw

This year British Midland celebrates 60 years of high-flying success. To mark the airline's achievement, Times readers are offered the chance to win one of 500 pairs of British Midland return tickets from London Heathrow to Amsterdam for just 60p each in our exclusive prize draw. Simply collect four tokens to enter. British Midland will donate the 60p charge to Save the Children.

HOW TO ENTER Collect three differently numbered tokens from *The Times* and one token from *The Sunday Times*. Send them with the completed prize-draw entry form, right, plus your answer to the competition question. Winners will be selected at random from all the correct entries received by Friday, June 5, 1998. Winners will get a voucher for two return tickets from London Heathrow to Amsterdam for 60p each, subject to the terms and conditions which were published in *The Times* on Monday.

BRITISH MIDLAND PRIZE DRAW ENTRY FORM

Attach three differently numbered prize draw tokens from *The Times* and one from *The Sunday Times* to this completed form and post it to: *The Times/British Midland Diamond Jubilee Prize Draw*, PO Box 79, Ferry Drayton, Nuneaton, CV18 6DX. Entries should arrive no later than Friday June 5, 1998.

Which anniversary is British Midland celebrating this year?
 25th 40th 60th

Title _____ Initials _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Daytime tel _____

British Midland

The Airline for Europe

CHANGING TIMES

LEGAN REDISCOVER
 IMPERIAL COURT - KENNEDY
 JUST ONE HOUR FROM THE CITY
 VICTORIAN SOAR ROADS
 NOW CONVERTED TO HIGH
 ULTRA-HIGH SPECIFICATION
 APARTMENTS IN A
 LANDSCAPED
 SQUARE
 ONLY £59,995

لقد انزلنا من الاصل

Two brews share name in common All issues to be litigated at once

Anheuser-Busch Inc v Budějovický Budvar Narodní Podnik... The court considered the rights of the trademark owner...

register as a trademark. As each application was pending at the commencement of the Trade Marks Act 1994...

Mr Justice Rimer held in the Chancery Division, in dismissing appeals against decisions by Mr Norman Harkness, Assistant Registrar of Trade Marks...

Mr Justice Rimer held in the Chancery Division, in dismissing appeals against decisions by Mr Norman Harkness, Assistant Registrar of Trade Marks...

Mr Justice Rimer held in the Chancery Division, in dismissing appeals against decisions by Mr Norman Harkness, Assistant Registrar of Trade Marks...

Mr Justice Rimer held in the Chancery Division, in dismissing appeals against decisions by Mr Norman Harkness, Assistant Registrar of Trade Marks...

Mr Justice Rimer held in the Chancery Division, in dismissing appeals against decisions by Mr Norman Harkness, Assistant Registrar of Trade Marks...

Mr Justice Rimer held in the Chancery Division, in dismissing appeals against decisions by Mr Norman Harkness, Assistant Registrar of Trade Marks...

Combination sentence outwith powers

Gilding v Director of Public Prosecutions... The court considered the powers of the Director of Public Prosecutions...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

Appeal limited to leave terms

Regina v Jackson... The court considered the powers of the Director of Public Prosecutions...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

Annual inspection reasonable

Allen v Elmbridge Borough Council and Another... The court considered the powers of the Director of Public Prosecutions...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

Corrective

Allen v Elmbridge Borough Council and Another... The court considered the powers of the Director of Public Prosecutions...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

The defendant in April 1997 relating to drugs, counterfeit currency and stolen goods...

Real estate advertisements for various regions including Norfolk, Scotland, Sussex, Wales, London Rentals, Country Rentals, Ireland, Portugal, Bedfordshire, Somerset, Suffolk, Surrey, West Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Northampton, Brighton, Sussex Square, and Gibraltair. Includes contact information and descriptions of properties.

Large advertisement for 'Can I spa' featuring a woman's face and promotional text for spa services.

THE TIMES ARTS



OPERA A Swedish songbird at Glyndebourne PAGE 38

THEATRE The Great Gatsby comes to the stage PAGE 39



Can Lars make sparks fly?

The Swedish maverick in charge of the Tate's new Bankside Gallery tells Joanna Pitman his plans

In the hierarchy of museums of modern art, three institutions leave all others in the shade: the Pompidou Centre in Paris, New York's MOMA, and the Guggenheim. In two years' time they will be joined by a fourth, the Tate Gallery of Modern Art at Bankside. Art world voices are already predicting that, because it will be the most self-consciously 21st-century (in terms of artistic vision, display and technology), it will leap straight to the top.

serious surprise at being there in the first place, all at the same time. "It's a very exciting job, particularly as I will be in there early enough to help to shape the galleries from the beginning. The Tate at Bankside will be something extraordinary. I've followed the scheme from its earliest stages and I've always thought this is a unique project for moving the concepts of modern art into the 21st century."

Nicholas Serota, who will

"I know some people here find modern art alienating"

remain overall director of the Tate's four galleries (at Millbank, St Ives, Liverpool and eventually Bankside), has, with the Tate's trustees, selected a serious candidate rich in talent and experience. But in contrast to the carefully pigeonholed trend-shapers of the New York and Paris modern art scenes, Nittve is something of a maverick.

Picking over a lunchtime crab salad in the Tate Gallery's restaurant days after his surprisingly swift appointment (he beat off 19 other contenders for the job), the 44-year-old Nittve is grappling with his first real problem of impending high office — how to exude gravitas, look youthfully dynamic and dissemble

His schooling began at a specialist academy for aspiring professional musicians where he sang, composed and played two instruments. After abandoning music, he worked as a postman, then a photographer, trained as a librarian, became a ski instructor and then embarked on a degree at the Stockholm School of Eco-

nomics, before finally turning to art history.

"My father was an engineer and my mother a social worker and my two brothers were both serious professionals in the worlds of medicine and economics. So for a long time I put off becoming an art historian because it was not considered a proper job. When I finally made the decision to study art — I remember I made up my mind on an exhilarating cold and sunny Stockholm day just after I'd seen a Le Corbusier exhibition — I knew I had done the right thing. Suddenly something clicked and I had masses of energy for art. And after 18 months I was invited to start teaching."

Nittve soon became senior art critic on a Swedish newspaper and then moved swiftly on to the inside track, becoming senior curator of the Moderna Museet in Stockholm in 1986. Four years later he became founding director of the Roseum Centre for Contemporary Art in Malmö before moving to Copenhagen.

"The Roseum was also set up in a converted power station, though smaller and older than Bankside, so I've had a particular interest in the Bankside preparations for that reason. Converted industrial spaces are fantastic for installing 20th-century artworks. I fell in love with that sort of slightly harsh industrial space. I think it's very healthy for the relationship between the audience and the art because it takes away some of the pressures that people often feel in experiencing modern art."



Lars Nittve on the site of the new Tate Gallery at Bankside: he tried being a postman, librarian and ski instructor before art history beckoned.

Nittve is well aware of the burns-on-seats aspect of modern art museums in Britain today. According to a rumoured report on the future of museums soon to emerge from the London School of Economics, British museums will increasingly be required to follow a utilitarian and populist approach, to be contributors to the local commu-

nity and to education rather than simply collections of great objects preserved for posterity.

"The Tate Bankside should not only be seen as a tourist attraction. We want people with all levels of knowledge to feel that they can come to the gallery and enjoy something in their own way. My job is to break down the barriers of

accessibility. I don't just mean maintaining free admission, but also providing the tools with which people can come to grips with modern art.

"I know from the reaction to the Turner Prize that some people in Britain find modern art exclusive and alienating and I hope that this can be overcome. We can help people to shape their own opinions

without making the place feel like a schoolroom... The gallery also has a job to do in its local vicinity, and we must make sure that the community is involved."

Unlike the Pompidou Centre, which effectively landed from the moon in an underprivileged residential quarter of Paris and swept away everything in sight, the

Tate Bankside had been engaged in sssing of local businesses and residents, even far as to hold a Ta home-made jams, n ples and tomolag summer to ease itid local hearts. Nittve's populist flair, schol- evident dedication make him welcome

Taut — a lesson

Something of a changing of the guard is taking place in the UK's soul sisterhood. The genre, in perpetual need of a few good women, has had life breathed into it lately by Londoner Hinda Hicks, who broached the Top 20 last week with *You Think You Own Me*, and other British-born newcomers such as Shernette May and Karen Ramirez.

et, she may have looked more like a rock'n'roll child, but her expressively agile vocals were informed by the groundwork of soul music's founding mothers.

By the standards of this new school, Beverley Knight is a mature student, but her recent return to recording has put her on the fast track back towards the top of the class. The gear for *A.W.O.L.* in which she showed her ability to wring the maximum emotion from tearstained lyrics such as "Just when my sky falls in, you're absent without leave." Such a skill was further enhanced by some jazzy undertones on the ballad highlight of the set, *The Need of You*.

Her one cover was a suitably hipshaking version of *Think (About It)*, the early-1970s funk gem by one of James Brown's protégées, Lyn Collins. It does not exaggerate Knight's abilities to say that she would be at home in such company and, as she closed the show with her best-known song so far, the flavour of the old school was tasty indeed.

Presenting material from *Prodigal Sista*, an album due in August, Knight made a capably funky start with *Re- wind*, then dropped down a gear for *A.W.O.L.* in which she showed her ability to wring the maximum emotion from tearstained lyrics such as "Just when my sky falls in, you're absent without leave." Such a skill was further enhanced by some jazzy undertones on the ballad highlight of the set, *The Need of You*.

PAUL SEXTON

JAZZ: Passing the cabaret audition; Brazilian eclecticism

She is not exactly an unknown quantity as a singer — plenty of the atreagoers have heard her in *Gigs and Dolls*, for instance. But Imelda Staunton, the cabaret diva? Against the odds the actress's show, with a punchy Vegas-style big band in tow, has the makings of a cult hit.

If she took some of us by surprise, Staunton seems a mite unsure herself how to make the most of her talents. Her self-deprecating jokes and laddish banter about piles and colonic irrigation were an unwelcome distraction, only serving to undercut the emotional content of the ballads she sang with such passion. She has a strong voice and a forceful stage presence, so why be so apologetic?

At first, when she sometimes strained to stay on top of the band arrayed behind her — always a difficult task for any singer, no matter how experienced — it seemed that Staunton might have made the right decision to go for laughs. If so, the script needed to be

Actress of real notes

Imelda Staunton: Talk of London

beefed up beyond a few peppy one-liners, although I did like her put-down of audience participation: "I'll sing, and you listen."

As the evening progressed, she sounded more and more impressive, particularly in a tender selection of Irish ballads. *Danny Boy* could have easily been an embarrassing choice, but the purity of her voice, the utter sincerity of her reading and the stark accompaniment were irresistible. *The Beatles' In My Life*

worked just as well: Staunton was equally comfortable with the lush R&B mood of *Stand By Me* or the Stax classic *I've Been Loving You Too Long*. She clearly enjoys dabbling in many genres, hopping from Peggy Lee to Dusty Springfield. She worked up a convincing country twang as well on Patsy Cline's *Crazy*, with a glimmer ball pressed into service to add some schmalz.

Nicholas Lloyd's band delivered bright and unfussy arrangements, adding a touch of Buddy Rich on a driving instrumental arrangement of *Norwegian Wood*.

One of the best surprises was left to the end, when Staunton slipped into a slow, elegiac treatment of *You Are My Sunshine*. She was in very good company — whenever he comes to London, the peerless Mose Allison makes a habit of dropping the tempo to draw out the melancholic sense of longing concealed in this standard.

CLIVE DAVIS

You get her continental drift

In a brief note accompanying one of her recent Blue Note albums, *The Three Americas*, Brazilian pianist Eliane Elias states her ambition to "present some of the innumerable sounds and rhythms of North, Central and South America". In these days of cross-cultural artistic exchange, such an aim is relatively unremarkable, but she goes on to refine her statement in a much more unusual way, expressing the hope that she can "capture the musical essence of each America and combine their various rhythms and sounds to beat as one heart."

Fronting a wonderfully responsive and subtly assertive rhythm section — bassist Marc Johnson, drummer Satoshi Takeishi — Elias began the first of her two hour-long sets with a tune forever associated with North America, *Bye Bye Blackbird*, by Ray Henderson. To this archetypal jazz standard — as with its second-set equivalent, Jerome Kern's *The Way You Look Tonight* — Elias brought a choppy vigour, constantly breaking up the rhythm to indulge in interplay with Takeishi, and, in the Kern piece, using double-time

passages and the odd slower, funkier moment to imbue the whole with delightful unpredictability.

Conversely, Elias brought a jazzier sensibility to the material primarily associated with South America, much of it written by the currently ubiquitous Antonio Carlos Jobim. She initially honed this approach on her mid-1980s arrival in New York by experience with the classy fusion band Steps Ahead, but it is also discernible on many of her subsequent dozen, more straightforward albums as a leader.

The superimposition of jazz improvisation on this music, however, worked less well. The samba in particular relies largely on an airy, winsome lilt for its effect: to use the rhythm as a springboard for piano jazz improvisation — as opposed to saxophone or guitar, which can work well in the medium — risks cluttering the sound.

Where Elias's music did genuinely "beat as one heart" was in *Chorango*, a tightly

composed original which, despite moving abruptly between Brazilian and tango rhythms, fused its apparently disparate elements with great charm and elegance. The robust piano improvisation to which it gave rise emerged perfectly naturally from it.

From then on, until the end of the concert — the inevitable vocal *Girl from Ipanema* out of the way — the trio visibly relaxed. By the time they were into their second encore, they were, to use an expression equally applicable to music from north or south of the Caribbean, cooking.

CHRIS PARKER

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament: OSCAR BETTISO

Profession: Composer. 1997 Winner of the Royal Philharmonic Society's Composition Prize.

Age: 22. He was born in St Helier, Jersey to a Spanish mother and English father. The local evening newspaper has already proudly called him "Jersey's best export since footballer Graeme Le Saux".

Where can we hear his work? He is one of the composers who are having works inspired by Ligeti performed at the Festival Hall at six o'clock this evening.

Who spotted his budding talent? His music teacher was so impressed with the final of the Marimolin Competition in Boston in 1991.



Lorca's *Niña Ahoga Pozo*. "I'm par drawn to language because it already gr form to work with."

One of his early pit an arrangement o Piazzolla's *Libe*. Another sign of an tional tastes? "When working I tend not to what we would call classical music. I en especially from the S — Stevie Wonder, Gaye, Sly & the Stone. But my favou sician is Piazzolla. I only a great musician of this knack of coo cheery music with the Stravinskian and B harmonies."

Unconventional taste "I'm working on a j big band at the mon a mixture of differ ments. I've enjoyed tl enge, because it's pletely different disci CLIVE I

Does his mixed ancestry influence his work? Absolutely, especially the poetry of Lorca. The piece which brought him first prize in the 1994 BBC/Lloyds Bank Young Composer of the Year competition was inspired by

NORTHERN STAGE PRESENTS Lorca Fiesta THE BIGGEST LORCA FESTIVAL OUTSIDE SPAIN! 23 MAY - 6 JUNE 1998 NEWCASTLE PLAYHOUSE, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE INFORMATION CALL 0191 230 5151

BAROQUE ROME COMES HC BERNINI EXHIBITION CELEBRATING HIS 400th BIRTHDAY To celebrate, Italiatour is arranging special weekend packs... All this for £319 p.p. RESERVATIONS: 0171 605 751 italiatour! ITALY FOR LOVERS

BITE:98 THE 1997 EDINBURGH FESTIVAL SELL-OUT MEASURE FOR MEASURE Dr. Stephan Braunschweig May 25 26 27 28 29 30 1998 Shakespeare's scorching exposé of sexual hypocrisy "The erotic tension is palpable" The Times Barbican Centre Box Office 0171 638 8891

CONCERTS

Well to a maestro

Giant dive for a fast rising diva

Whether bungee-jumping or singing at Glyndebourne, Katarina Karnéus exudes vivacity, John Allison writes

When Katarina Karnéus steps on stage at Glyndebourne tomorrow, singing her debut there to a production of *Così fan tutte*, she will doubtless be hailed as a vocal and theatrical star.

Her mezzo's rise during the Cardiff World competition a year ago has been by a series of vivid roles that reflect her character.

For instance, the unprovoked bungee-jumping Karnéus talks about upside-down from a stomach-churning time in Auckland. At the weigh-in, she signs your life away, deciding which rubber she, I said I wanted to water. There I went, two, one, bungee! I touched the water, and out that I'd paid to in. They let me try at time I went in all

in all the way Karnéus's style well, some singers find one of Mozart's less parts, she is full of character. There's so re to her than people they often try to make the more reserved, but it could be the 'around: Dorabella. Karnéus's life more easily, the older one. She's who thinks she can g with the men but faithful. That's what ut to do when they t. It's always a great think there will be a surprises in this n."

one of the reasons néus is so relaxed his Glyndebourne s long rehearsal which the house is Singers come to ts feeling secure, not y houses where the t can seem like the s rehearsal.

extra time is vital, for young artists. n exciting period, I'd

say even a journey. And I'm happy playing Dorabella, because she is a real woman and that's always nice for a mezzo. But I must admit that I love the trouser roles. There is something very interesting about playing a man — the biggest challenge for me is going to be Octavian.

Long before that challenge, two years away in *Der Rosenkavalier* with Welsh National Opera, the company that has nurtured her, Karnéus will be making her debut with the Metropolitan Opera. In the New York house, one of the few others that can afford proper rehears-

There will be a few extra surprises in this staging

al time, she sings Varvara in Janáček's *Katya Kabanova*. "It's a lovely role to debut with there, not huge, not small, just substantial, and a great character too. And it's with Sir Charles Mackerras conducting. Going to the Met is a childhood dream come true."

That childhood was spent in Stockholm, where she played the clarinet before taking private singing lessons. "As a young girl I used to imitate singers on television, but it takes a while to find your way in singing. My teacher did everything for me, helping me to discover my natural voice and let it out while never making a 'produced' sound. But you don't know for sure that you are going to become a real singer until it happens."

Happen it did, though not before she had come to England to study. "My Mum is English, and when she moved back after 35 years she asked if I wanted to study here. So I took theory lessons and auditioned for the colleges. I had good results from them all and

picked Trinity College of Music. "It didn't worry me that its opera course was not the most established. It was a good place to build up confidence, and we had wonderful language classes. We didn't do much traditional opera, and so the National Opera Studio, where I went after that, was perfect."

Karnéus's pliant, rich-toned voice suggests that here is a natural talent. Indeed, there are many outstanding Swedish singers around today. Is it the air, or is it the training? "I suppose it's a bit of everything, the language, the typical Swedish cheekbones which may be good for the voice, but it's also got to do with the upbringing and dedication. We love music and listen to lots of it; we use it to lighten life up when it's dull on all those dark nights."

"But when it comes to the arts Sweden is like a duck-pond. My dream is to sing at Drottningholm [the perfectly preserved Baroque theatre], and I don't know if I'll ever get asked."

At least the offers are coming in from everywhere else. She returns to Paris early next year for more Carnéus at the Opéra Comique, will sing Gluck's *Orfeo* for the first time under John Eliot Gardiner at the Châtelet, and has Brussels and Munich debuts lined up. This summer she records a Lied disc for EMI. But a Drottningholm engagement would fit in with the Gluck-Mozart area of the repertoire she has cultivated along with the lighter Romantic parts.

"It's been essential to start like that, taking one step at a time. That's why after winning Cardiff, which was wonderful, people suddenly had all sorts of expectations and I just had to say 'no thank you' to some of the offers. Instead I took on small roles in big houses and big roles in small houses. I'm very pleased with the bigger parts coming up, but I really can't say what I will be doing in ten years. It will just have to feel right."

Glyndebourne (01273 513813) opens with *Così* tomorrow and continues until August 28

ARTS

OPERA Gheorghiu triumphant

Puccini's bird flies again

NORMAL practice was reversed at the Albert Hall. Usually the concert performance comes first and the opera recording follows a year later. Instead, Covent Garden engaged Angela Gheorghiu and Roberto Alagna, stars of Puccini's *La rondine* from EMI, for a one-night stand.

The CDs were reckoned by many to be the best opera set of 1997. Rightly so. Covent Garden's Puccini was another mighty blow to rescue the work, packed with melody and ironic charm, from the regular criticisms of being a piece of mere fluffy frivolity.

Gheorghiu dominated as Magda, mistress of the rich Paris banker Ranbaldo (the excellent Donald Maxwell), who has a fling with Ruggero, a callow boy from the provinces. Shades of *La traviata*. She loves him and leaves him, rather than besmirch a respectable family. "Once a tart, always a tart" was the rule during the Second Empire.

Gheorghiu's soprano has begun to mellow, taking on darker colourings in the most famous number, *Doretta*

OPERA

La rondine
Albert Hall

Dream. But she still floats those exquisitely clean high notes, as in the Act II duet. This second act is the glory of *La rondine*, with its swirling waltz tunes, the vivacity of the writing for the chorus (absent from the outer acts), and Puccini's inborn gift of turning into music the feelings of two people suddenly infatuated with each other. Gheorghiu, first cool, then curious and vulnerable and finally resigned, was majestic.

Alagna was more impressive as Ruggero, content at the start to play the conventional lover, with the voice a little raw. He warmed with the evening, saving his most lyrical singing for the final act when Magda, the swallow of Puccini's title, is going to fly from their love nest.

Two Viennese provided the original libretto and drafted in an extra tenor/soprano support team, conventional in operettas of the time. Of the pair Francesco Piccoli began in style but had uneasy moments later. Rosemary Joshua as his secret love put no step wrong. Gianluigi Gelmetti was the sympathetic conductor, making a single performance sound like a well-oiled repertory piece.

JOHN HIGGINS



Katarina Karnéus in the gardens at Glyndebourne this week: she makes her debut as Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*

A departure from the norm

After a four-year tenure as principal conductor of the London Sinfonietta, Markus Stenz is leaving to take up his appointment as chief conductor and artistic director of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. His farewell concert on Sunday night was to have included the whole of Wolfgang Rihm's song cycle *Abschiedsstücke* (Farewell Pieces), but in the event the last song was not completed in time, causing Stenz to reshape the whole programme.

The result was a satisfying combination of works by the British composers Mark-Anthony Turnage and Oliver Knussen, alongside a new piece by the Australian Brett Dean and the two completed songs of Rihm's cycle — a programme which coincidentally represented the three countries with which Stenz is most closely associated.

The text of the first of the *Abschiedsstücke*, by Wolf Wondratschek, deals with death and the desecration of a former lover's corpse — not, perhaps, the most gracious of farewells. But Rihm too finds the images offensive and his setting, both sensitive and witty, is an attempt to come to terms with them. His sensitivity shows itself in his mitigation of the text's violence, and soprano Rosemary Hardy's delivery calculated the hesitating, whispered fragments to perfection.

The wit — albeit black humour — is evident in such quotations as that from Strauss's *Salome* at the appearance of the word "head". Also, in the third of the pieces (subtitled *Scherzo*) the ensemble brought a neat sense of irony to bear.

CONCERTS
London Sinfonietta / Markus Stenz
Queen Elizabeth Hall

the Berlin Philharmonic. He began composing only ten years ago (he is now 37) and his *Carlo* for strings, sampler and tape was receiving its European premiere. The title refers to the Italian Renais-

sance composer Gesualdo, infamous for the murder of his wife and her lover. A tape (featuring soloists from the RIAS Chamber Choir of Berlin) intones the opening, lubricious chords of the madrigal *Moro lasso* which, along with other Gesualdan motifs, provides material for the 15 strings arranged in a semi-circle. The concept is hardly new, but Dean's treatment is brilliantly imaginative, the splintering of vocal harmony into the screams and moans of

Gesualdo's victims forming a particularly graphic climax. Absent singers were also a feature of Knussen's *Songs Without Voices*, fluently performed by eight members of the Sinfonietta, while the mezzo Sarah Connolly, in a superbly claustrophobic reading of Turnage's *Twice Through the Heart*, proved that his internal drama can work even better without a staging.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Young composers on show

In addition to its programming of new music by stealth, in the usual way of putting modern compositions alongside established works, last weekend the Brighton Festival staged a Contemporary Music Day spotlighting more than a dozen composers. The events, a mixture of concerts and discussions hosted by Robert Saxton, drew a good audience at St Nicholas's Church. But though much inventive music was heard, the concerts lacked the focus to draw wider attention.

No big names or big "isms" were featured, nothing from the cutting edge of new music was played, but the concerts did show something of the creative energy of Britain's younger composers today. Indeed, three student composers were included in the first concert by the Composers Ensemble under Martin Butler. Rachel Leach made the strongest impression with her *Green Plastic, Pink Oil and Water*, a fluid, bubbly piece in which a mixed sextet explores contrasting textures. Jonathan Cole's *Caught*, which plays with attack and resonance, had a logic of its own, but the

performance of Sam Hayden's *Partners in Psychopathology*, a darker work in which the composer set out to create "deviant" music, was disrupted by a broken violin string.

Jo Johnson, who died last year tragically young, was remembered with her *Hypo-*

Contemporary Music Day Brighton Festival

critical *Oath*, a movement for flute and marimba that makes fullest use of the wind instrument's expressive range. She had been a pupil of Martin Butler, who was represented in a late-night event with the *Lyric Quartet* and by two works at this opening concert. His *Jazz Machines* was less effective than his new *Carillon*, a festival commission: scored for clarinet, vibraphone and piano, this work's bright cascading peals dissolve into an evocative coda.

The *Brussels Ensemble's* concert, conducted with meticulous care by Christopher Austin, boasted a more satis-

EXTRA PERFORMANCE ADDED
SUNDAY 7 JUNE AT 7.30PM
LAST REMAINING SEATS RELEASED FOR ROYAL GALA EVENING ON MONDAY 8 JUNE

MR PRODUCER!

THE MUSICAL WORLD OF CAMERON MACKINTOSH

A GLITTERING ARRAY OF STARS INCLUDING...
MICHAEL BALL, JOHN BARROWMAN, PETER BAYLISS, BRIAN BLESSED, DAVID CAMPBELL, JUDI DENCH, HAL FOWLER, MARIA FRIEDMAN, ELLEN GREENE, RUTHIE HENSHALL, HUGH JACKMAN, DAVID KERNAN, TOM LEHRER, JIMMY LOGAN, MILLICENT MARTIN, JULIA MCKENZIE, MARION MONTGOMERY, PAUL NICHOLAS, ELAINE PAIGE, BERNADETTE PETERS, CLARKE PETERS, JONATHAN PRYCE, PHILIP QUAST, JOANNA RIDING, LIZ ROBERTSON, LEA SALONGA, NED SHERRIN, DONALD SINDEN, STEPHEN SONDHEIM, SONIA SWABY, COLM WILKINSON HAVE AGREED TO APPEAR WITH A SUPPORTING COMPANY AND ORCHESTRA OF OVER 200 PERFORMERS.

Featuring staged excerpts from some of the shows which Cameron Mackintosh has produced over the past 30 years - CATS, LES MISÉRABLES, MISS SAIGON, THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, ANYTHING GOES, THE BOY FRIEND, CAROUSEL, FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE, GODSPELL, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, MARTIN GUERRE, MY FAIR LADY, OKLAHOMA!, OLIVER!, SIDE BY SIDE BY SONDHEIM, SONG AND DANCE and TOM FOOLERY.
BOOK TODAY 0171 656 1818
LYCEUM THEATRE
WELLINGTON STREET, LONDON WC2

EXTRA PERFORMANCE ADDED
SUNDAY 7 JUNE AT 7.30PM
LAST REMAINING SEATS RELEASED FOR ROYAL GALA EVENING ON MONDAY 8 JUNE



MR PRODUCER!
MUSICAL WORLD OF CAMERON MACKINTOSH
OK TODAY 0171 656 1818
LYCEUM THEATRE
WELLINGTON STREET, LONDON WC2

كندا من الأصل

THEATRE

Mahler movingly staged

ARTS

LISTINGS

Curtain up at Chichester

The perils of parenthood

Back in 1834 a German poet called Friedrich Rückert mourned the death of two of his children in a cycle of no fewer than 45 songs...

THEATRE Kindertotenlieder Lyric, Hammersmith

The subject-matter is too difficult. I must say I did not feel too sorry for the prospective audiences at this point...



Harriet Innes, Rebecca Blankenship and Paul Suits in Robert Lepage's production

LONDON

LOVE'S FIRE An evening of seven short American plays by John Gudy...

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marti Hargie

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM The Berlin Symphony continues the first leg of its transatlantic tour...

CHICHESTER

David Suchet opens the Chichester season



David Suchet opens the Chichester season

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: The Print in Stuart Britain 1603-1688...

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of shows currently in London

American bad dream

OF ALL the classic, literary fables that chart the American Dream...

Left out in the cold

In The Cows Are Mad an American writer, Jon Tompkins, assembles comical stereotypes of happy, smiling folk...

Soeing Red Part 1

WRITING a good short play is not easy, and writing a good short political play evidently presents difficulties...

NEW RELEASES

DEEP IMPACT (12) Hurling comet threatens the earth...

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London (where indicated with the symbol Ⓢ)

ART GALLERIES

100 WORKS ON PAPER 1970-1980, 20 May-19 June 1998

THEATRES

ALBERT 380 1723244 4444 Sun 7.45 Mon-Thurs 8 & Sat 4

ART GALLERIES

100 WORKS ON PAPER 1970-1980, 20 May-19 June 1998

ART GALLERIES

100 WORKS ON PAPER 1970-1980, 20 May-19 June 1998

ART GALLERIES

100 WORKS ON PAPER 1970-1980, 20 May-19 June 1998

ART GALLERIES

100 WORKS ON PAPER 1970-1980, 20 May-19 June 1998

ART GALLERIES

100 WORKS ON PAPER 1970-1980, 20 May-19 June 1998

MAKE ANOTHER DATE WITH AN IDEAL HUSBAND

298,000 readers of this section go to the theatre at least once every 2/3 months.

Let me create a Beautiful THEATRE EXPERIENCE For you... Your Special Date

RUGBY UNION

Kearns comes out of wilderness to face England

By MARK SOUSTER

AFTER hurling insults at England from afar, Australia yesterday threw an international lifeline to Phil Kearns...

The selectors have also gambled in an attempt to solve their problem at fly half, a position that they have struggled to fill since Michael Lynagh's retirement...

good opportunity," Larkham, who partners George Gregan, his ACT Brumbies colleague, at half back, said.

Bunting reprieved by RFU dithering

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE final leg of Rotherham's ascent to the Allied Dunbar Premiership summit, from North East division one in 1987-88...

suspension period, which means that Rotherham have Simon Bunting, their prop forward, available for both matches...



The concentration Allenby requires for shooting contrasts with the aggression needed in other pentathlon disciplines such as fencing

Allenby seeks another gold blend

John Goodbody on the Briton's varied preparations in her attempt to retain the European modern pentathlon title

BLISS is crucial for modern pentathletes as they seek a blend between the five varied disciplines. The resolution of opposing physical and mental skills makes the sport one of the most entrancing Olympic events.

junior world championships. I shot a two out of ten on one attempt." Modern pentathlon is unforgiving, with the disciplines concentrated in one day...

As it turned out, the shooting and fencing were disastrous, and Allenby came 24th of those that finished ahead of her, she had beaten all but one at the European championships.

ers to relax her before the shooting. The team relay takes place today and the semi-finals of the individual event are on Friday, with the finals on Sunday.

from venue to venue, while studying for an MPH at the University of Surrey in Guildford. Her thesis is on commercialisation and its effect on drug abuse during the 1980 and 1996 Olympics.

al- no the itain had: did ision here g in bout ases

FOR THE RECORD

Table with columns for BADMINTON, BOWLS, BASEBALL, and BASKETBALL, listing various sports events and results.

Table with columns for CRICKET, CYCLING, and DANCE SPORT, listing various sports events and results.

Table with columns for EQUESTRIANISM, FENCING, and FOOTBALL, listing various sports events and results.

Table with columns for GOLF, RUGBY UNION, and SAILING, listing various sports events and results.

Table with columns for TENNIS, TABLE TENNIS, and VOLLEYBALL, listing various sports events and results.

Table with columns for WRESTLING and OTHER SPORTS, listing various sports events and results.

Table titled 'KELSO' listing horse racing results for various tracks and races.

Table titled '3.30 SOTHEBY'S KNIGHT FRANK HANDICAP CHASE' listing horse racing results.

Table titled '6.25 CARLING BLACK LABEL MAIDEN HURDLE' listing horse racing results.

Table titled '7.55 HOOPERS HOOD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HARVEST HURDLE' listing horse racing results.

Table titled '8.25 CARLING PREMIER NOVICES CHASE' listing horse racing results.

Table titled '2.30 NATIONAL RIDING WEEK NOVICES CHASE' listing horse racing results.

Table titled '2.00 ALEX TAIT NOVICES HURDLE' listing horse racing results.

Table titled '4.00 J RUTHERFORD EARLSTON LTD HUNTERS CHASE' listing horse racing results.

Table titled '6.55 DRAUGHT BASS NOVICES HURDLE' listing horse racing results.

Table titled '8.55 WORTHINGTON DRAUGHT BITTER NOVICES HURDLE' listing horse racing results.

Table titled '3.00 M & J GALLATY NOVICES HURDLE' listing horse racing results.

Table titled '7.25 CAFFEYS IRISH ALE HANDICAP HURDLE' listing horse racing results.

use their ing- that been use hsh. could ame iopri- the se." t on uffid- ruld This audi- he as a on sing said t of vicid- "It nor e no what

THE TIMES SPORTS SERVICE

CRICKET

Reports and scores from the British Assurance county championship. Call 0891 525 019

CRICKET

Reports and scores from the British Assurance county championship. Call 0891 525 019

CRICKET

Reports and scores from the British Assurance county championship. Call 0891 525 019

CRICKET

Reports and scores from the British Assurance county championship. Call 0891 525 019

CRICKET

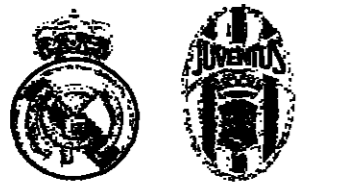
Reports and scores from the British Assurance county championship. Call 0891 525 019

CRICKET

Reports and scores from the British Assurance county championship. Call 0891 525 019

Rob Hughes hopes Juventus and Real Madrid will loosen European shackles

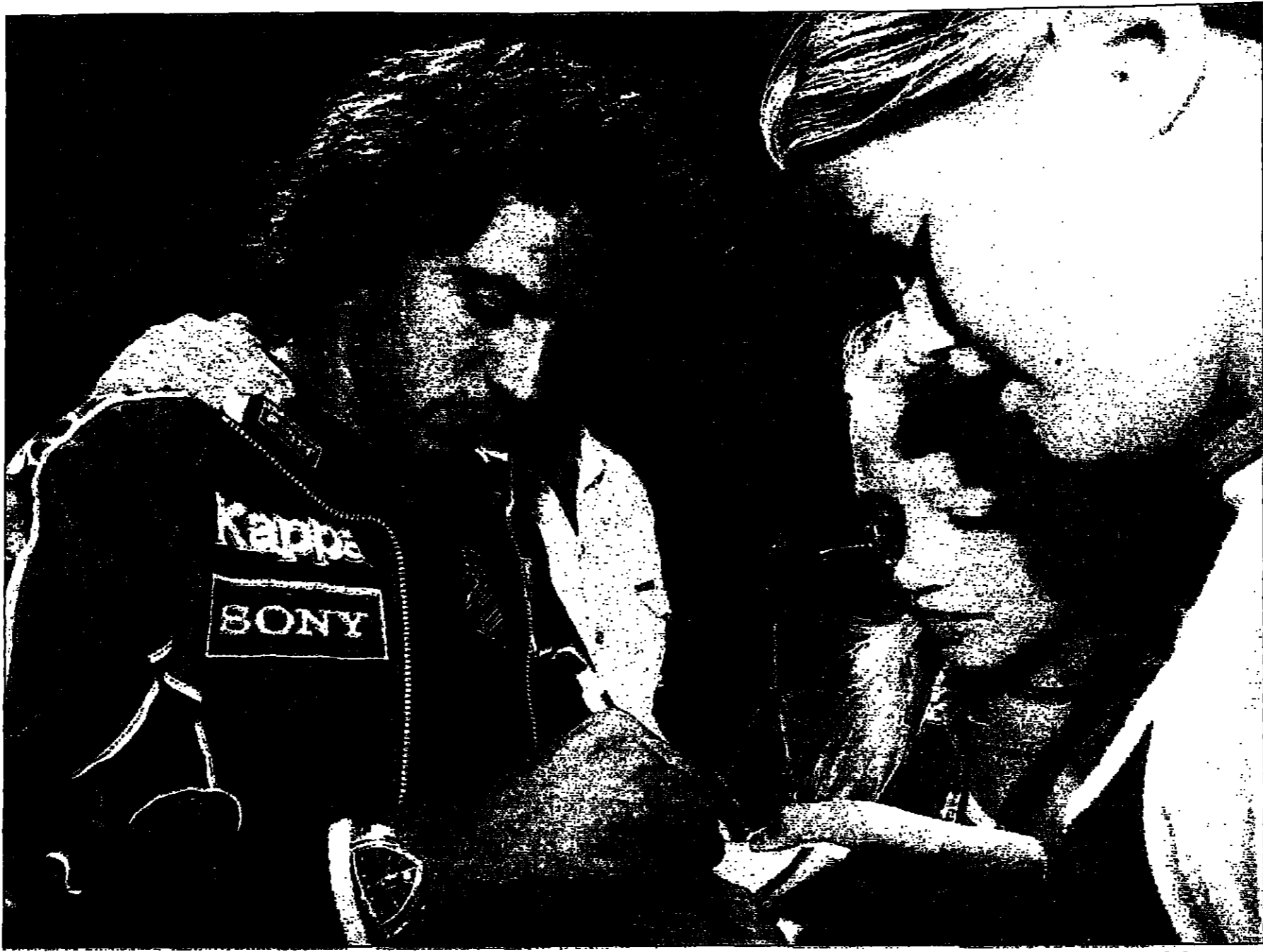
Cup final rivals can forsake gold for glory



There is one real football match before the World Cup — and even in the season of hype, it is the biggest of them all. At the Amsterdam Arena tonight, Real Madrid emerge from their illustrious past to challenge Juventus for the European Cup.

We should all be jealous, all hope that the beauty of which Real Madrid are capable and the might of Juventus give the sport a classic lift in one of the world's most modern stadiums. The Arena can house 51,000, the capacity of Schiphol airport is being stretched to the limit to take an extra 90 charter flights.

There was a time last autumn when United fancied that they had the measure of Juventus. The spring is a different story, with the pride of England overstretched and Juve employing the discipline, know-how and quality that for three consecutive seasons have earned them a place in the final.



Sign of the times: Del Piero's talent could be worth a minimum of £14 million to Juventus should he score the winning goal tonight. Photograph: Peter Dejong

is Real's. Rather like Manchester United, the side lost momentum in league football after distracting European nights, but way back in September Roberto Carlos, Hierro, Raúl and Mijatovic, and a young substitute named Morientes, produced a night of devastating panache to bounce Rosenberg 5-1 at the Bernabéu.

If anything lifts the soul of this game it is the sight of millionaires playing at the highest level for fun. Juventus, of course, will not permit that. But in Del Piero and Zidane, in Inzaghi, the Turin club possesses strikers who could, if they so wished, entertain Madrid on a "you score, we score" basis. A romantic thought, perhaps a sur-

stifle the impetus that Panucci and, especially, Roberto Carlos give Real on the flanks. The prize is so important, the money nowadays worth so much more than the glory, that Lippi is entitled to play it any way he chooses. He is, fundamentally, a winner, though he has a streak that wants to feel proud of the way

his cups are filled. The Real president, making it clear that Jupp Heynckes, his German coach, can leave after tonight, actually tried to tempt Lippi with £3 million a season for three seasons to leave Juventus.

Lippi smoothed down his grey hair, lit another cigar and invited Juve to make him a counter offer

he could not refuse. This week, another coach came into the picture. On Monday, Fabio Capello was summoned to the villa of Silvio Berlusconi, the AC Milan president, given dinner and dispatched before midnight, sacked. His seat may be given to Alberto Zaccheroni, the Udinese coach, and Capello might be invited back to Madrid, where he built the side last year.

The managerial money-ground moves in small circles at this height and the names of Ferguson and Wenger have been linked with that company. But England's leading clubs have the wealth to hold them and, as Ferguson reiterated a week ago, the money to buy even Italy's or Spain's main players.

He and Wenger are buyers, but

TEAMS

JUVENTUS (probable): 4-3-1-2: A. Peruzzi — M. Torricelli, P. Montero, M. Lisciani, G. Pascolato — A. Di Livio, D. D'Amico, E. Davids — Z. Zidane — P. Inzaghi, A. Del Piero. REAL MADRID (probable): 4-3-1-2: B. Panucci — C. Ronaldo, F. Hierro, M. Sanchis, Roberto Carlos — C. Kameni, C. Sedorf, F. Prud'homme — Raúl — P. Mijatovic, F. Morientes. Television: Live on ITV (kick-off 7.45)

the outstanding talents tonight may be unbuyable. Del Piero, the match-winner with such sublime vision and proven European pedigree, used interest from United and elsewhere to double his salary to £2.5 million per year.

It sounds obscene, but Del Piero, who has scored more goals in European competition than any player other than José Altafini, who ended his career in Turin more than 20 years ago, makes the difference between Juventus winning or losing the European Cup. That is worth £14 million in direct revenues alone.

All that Ferguson and Wenger can do is carry on buying £10 million Dutchmen such as Jaap Stam and blending those with the best of British to raise the standards and mount an assault on the peaks reached by Juventus and Real Madrid. And all we ask is that these giants of the game — one reborn, the other in its period of supremacy — show us their quality tonight. If they dare do it, they are capable of reviving the spirit and the memories of bygone days. "Real Madrid against Juventus," Alfredo di Stefano said this week, "is what the Copa Europa should be about."

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

I made a pseudo-expert play (your description may be less polite) on this hand. I was playing in the Princess Diana charity event against Nicola Smith, who has been ever-present in the British women's team for the past twenty-odd years.

Bridge hand diagram showing Dealer North, E-W Game, Pairs, and card distributions for Spades, Hearts, Diamonds, and Clubs.

Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: King of clubs.

Nicola was the declarer. She won the club lead with the ace and drew trumps in three rounds, ending in hand. What is the safe way to make the contract? She has five tricks in spades, one in diamonds, and the ace of clubs. After taking the ace she can develop another club trick, and she can ruff a club in dummy. If the clubs break 5-1, that is only nine tricks, so she has to develop an extra trick in diamonds.

WORD-WATCHING

- By Philip Howard. STRABISMUS: a. A Dutch philosopher, b. A layer in the atmosphere, c. A squint. CAVESON: a. A noseband, b. Armour, c. Sparkling wine. HUMORAL: a. Funny, b. Of the shoulder-blade, c. Pertaining to body fluids.

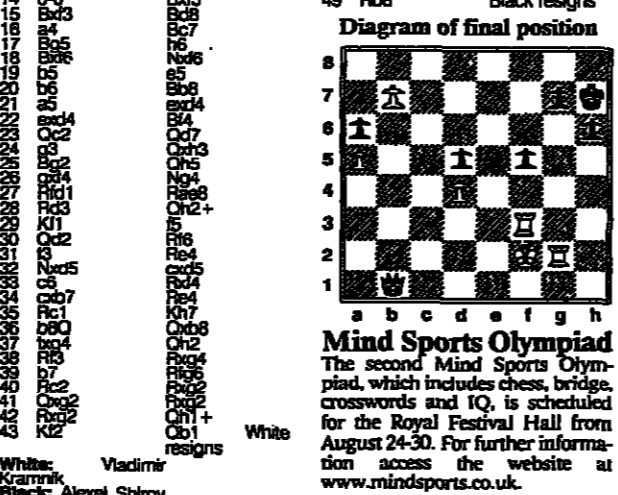
KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Lords question. Today in the House of Lords, Lord Hardinge of Penshurst has scheduled a question asking for clarification on the government's attitude to chess and other thinking sports in British schools.

In spite of Vladimir Kramnik's undoubted strengths, and the deep and broad way in which he lays out his strategic plans, he suffers from the occasional tendency to underestimate his opponent's tactical resources. The first game today is a case in point. Shirov fights back from a difficult strategic situation in order to score a devastating tactical victory. In the second game Kramnik redresses the balance.

White: Vladimir Kramnik. Black: Alexei Shirov. Queen's Pawn Opening.



WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene. White to play. This position is from Al Modiakhi - Rajan, Indonesia, 1998. White has sacrificed a piece to drive the black king into an awkward position. Even though White has only a pair of rooks left, this proved sufficient to checkmate. How did he continue?

Unhappy Kendall seeks further assurances about his future

HOWARD KENDALL wants further assurances about his position as Everton manager following a meeting with Peter Johnson, the club chairman, this week.

The Court of Sports Arbitration, set up by the International Olympic Committee, has told Uefa its executive committee was not empowered to rule on the case that arose after Anderlecht admitted paying the referee of their 1984 Uefa Cup semi-final against Forest. It is not clear if Uefa will abide by the decision.

Tottenham announces ticket price increase

TOTTENHAM Hotspur has defended an increase of up to 12 per cent in the price of season tickets for next season. The club blamed the increase on rising wages and the continuing redevelopment of White Hart Lane.

Sky is the limit for Scottish football

THE Scottish Football Association (SFA) yesterday announced a four-year contract with Sky Sports worth around £20 million. Under the new deal, Sky Sports will broadcast exclusive live coverage of all Scotland internationals played at home over the next four years.

Confident new comer set world... Pascoe tak on fast track... SKZ 14 10 10

CRICKET: SKIPPER DRIVES SOUTH AFRICANS TO IMPRESSIVE VICTORY BEFORE TEXACO TROPHY

Cronje shows heart for battle ahead

By SIMON WILDE

CANTERBURY (Kent won toss): The South Africans beat Kent by 98 runs

IF Hansie Cronje finds himself lifting the World Cup at Lord's next summer, he will view it as no more than justice for a South Africa side that is, day in and day out, the most consistent in the world at one-day cricket.

Being a purist, Cronje is more concerned with South Africa's reputation in the Test arena and his priorities are, perhaps, clear from his personal success in the two disciplines. While he frets for runs in Test cricket — his most recent century was three years ago — he remains among the most effective limited-overs batsmen on the planet, averaging almost 40 from 136 appearances.

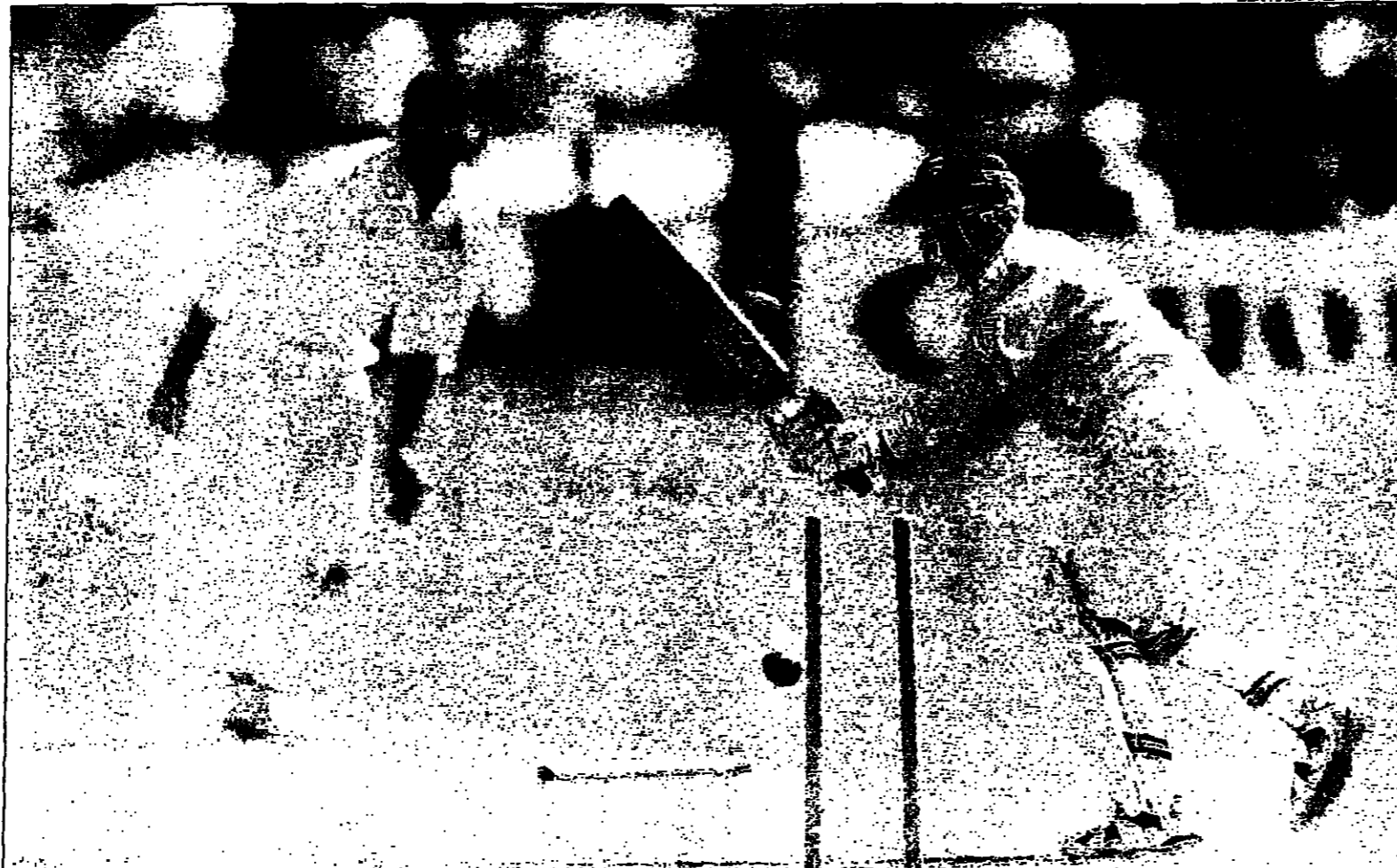
His main concern in the one-day game is that South Africa are prone to choke in the big tournaments, as they did during the last World Cup and in the World Series Cup in Australia last winter. It may just harden their resolve in the Texaco Trophy.

Cronje was one of the stars of the show yesterday — if such an occasion, played in relaxed mood, warranted such things. With a succession of mighty blows through the on-side, he bludgeoned 64 from 47 balls to raise the touring team to an impregnable 290 for seven.

A crowd of 4,000 will have relished even more the performance of Robert Key, who turned 19 last week and is being given a run in the Kent side before Ed Smith returns from Cambridge. Key gave the ball a terrific thump through the covers on his way to 54 from 57 balls. Once, he audaciously danced down the pitch to drive Donald for four, and not many do that. Donald bounced him.

When Walker responded to his partner's mood, there seemed the prospect of Kent making a decent reply but, after the two of them fell in successive overs, the innings ambled to a conclusion.

Kent put out a shamefully weak XI and one that did no



Iglesleden sends Boucher's middle stump flying as the Kent fast bowler claims one of his four wickets against the South Africans yesterday

justice to the club's promotional material: none of the four players featured on the match programme actually took the field. Headley curiously chose to sit out a match in which he might have done his prospects of Test selection some good.

There were actually more Kent celebrities on the players' balcony, which enjoyed visits from Mike Denness and Derek Underwood, members of the county's all-conquering team of the 1970s — as, of course, was Bob Woolmer, the South Africa coach. Kent have choked themselves in failing to live up to that halcyon age.

South Africa's preparation time here has been so short that Woolmer was determined to test the batting line-up to the full, which is what they duly did. Even so, they are likely to cover themselves by playing an extra batsman tomorrow, though on this evidence it may be unnecessary. They will be

reinforced tomorrow by the arrival of another bowler, Elworthy, who replaces the injured Telemachus.

Iglesleden, who bowled an immaculate line and deserved his four wickets, removed Kirsten in his fifth over, but Liebenberg and Kallis thumped half-centuries and Cullinan was only two runs short of joining them. Cronje's pyrotechnics were simply the icing on the cake.

McCague made an unhappy return to the Kent team. He struggled with his rhythm, strayed in line, and was punished mercilessly by Liebenberg, who hit the majority of the eight fours McCague conceded in his first spell. He will have plenty to discuss with the club's psychologist when he next sees him and Thompson, though a doctor, may be making a visit of his own to discuss a performance that was even worse.

Gooch to resume leading role

By ALAN LEE CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

GRAHAM GOOCH retired from Test cricket during the last Ashes tour, but he will be back in Australia with England this winter after his appointment yesterday as the tour manager. Gooch's duties, however, will end after the final Test in early January and David Graveney will take charge for the one-day tournament that follows.

Graveney, the chairman of selectors, will also manage the England one-day side for the ICC Trophy in Bangladesh in late October and probably an event in Sharjah planned for next spring. His appointment concludes with the World Cup in England a year from now. There has been no conflict over these appointments and to suggest it would be to imply that Bob Bennett, the outgo-

ing manager, had sacked himself. Bennett chairs the England management committee that made these enlightened decisions, reflecting a desire for better continuity and greater communication.

Bennett took the team to the West Indies earlier this year and did the job diligently. The many problems of the tour may have persuaded him against volunteering for Australia, but they also created an impression, in the dressing-room and elsewhere, that the team would be better served by a manager closer to the playing side than to the administration.

Gooch and Graveney, who both have young children, were each reluctant to undertake all of England's many commitments this winter and the division of duties is sound. Simon Pack, International Teams Director of the England and Wales Cricket Board, said: "The appointments are designed to reflect the fact that, increasingly, the two England squads draw on different personnel."

Whereas Graveney did not make a Test-match appearance as a player, Gooch played at that level for 20 years and his standing among the present players is his one persuasive factor in his new post. Another is his organisational skill and a third his undoubted wisdom as a batting coach. David Lloyd will continue as the chief coach of the senior team.

Brown and Morris take their chances

By JOHN STERN

FENNER'S (second day of three): Durham, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 337 runs ahead of Cambridge University

SIMON BROWN, the left-arm seamer, and John Morris, the acting captain, made full use of opportunities to prove their fitness for Durham's next championship match against Canterbury, which starts tomorrow.

Brown, whose knee ligament injury has prevented him playing any first-team cricket this season, was too good for the students' under-strength batting line-up, swinging the ball back into the right-handers from over the wicket. Having taken three wickets on the first evening, Brown finished with six for 17 from 16 overs, his best first-class figures for two seasons.

The only period when the Cambridge University batsmen held their own was when Brown was out of the attack, although they still found runs almost impossible to come by. At one stage in the morning, three runs were scored in 13 overs and Phillips, the Durham off-spinner, bowled eight consecutive maidens.

There was, though, some resistance from the lower order. House and Hughes, the acting captain, added 24 for the sixth wicket. Hughes and Collins put on 30 for the seventh, and Collins and Moffat 28 for the ninth. However, as soon as Brown returned, the innings folded.

The last wicket fell in bizarre circumstances. Collins smashing a ball from the off-spinner, Searle, on to the hip of Gough at short leg, from where the ball rebounded back to the bowler.

Morris has been troubled by a calf strain so, having not batted in the first innings, took first ball in the second after, predictably enough, declining to enforce the follow-on. His half-century was untypically studious, taking 94 balls, but, once past fifty, he began to punish Lovernige, the New Zealand leg-spinner.

Morris's second fifty took a further 60 balls and he reached it with a delicate sweep to fine leg off Hughes, a shot that brought him his tenth century for Durham.

Garland in lead role as Oxford fight back

By BARNEY SPENDER

THE PARKS (second day of three): Warwickshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 102 runs ahead of Oxford University

ANYONE who thinks that the universities are a wonderful breeding ground for young English cricketers may need to think again after another sun-drenched day that was dominated by players from overseas.

An Australian, Byron Byrne, carried Oxford University's bowling on the opening day and, yesterday, it was Jason Molins, an Irishman, and Ross Garland, a South African, who shored up their batting with maiden half-centuries. Their efforts allowed the university to declare 38 runs behind and could yet lead to an interesting finale today.

Molins looks well-organised and was particularly punishing through the off-side. Resuming on 18, he flourished against a Warwickshire attack that lacked Dougie Brown — who was being kept fresh for the championship game against Nottinghamshire tomorrow — and was quickly deprived of Tim Munton.

The man who missed all of last season with a serious back injury bowled just 64 overs before pulling up with a strained hamstring that is likely to keep him out for a fortnight. Molins reached his fifty from 113 balls and progressed steadily to 73 before being bowled as he played back to Neil Smith.

The innings faltered until Garland came in at 140 for six and helped himself to an entertaining and occasionally unorthodox 56 not out. Jez Barnes did his bit in an eighth-wicket stand of 76 but, with Garland around, it is no surprise to find the Englishmen playing only the supporting roles.

The 23-year-old post-graduate from Durham, who played alongside Shaun Pollock at Natal University, is also a budding thespian and in a fortnight's time will combine his cricket with the lead role of Sidney Bruhl in Ira Levin's play *Death Traps*. It is not to ask when he gets time to trot down to the library.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Tour match

Kent v South Africans

CANTERBURY (Kent won toss): The South Africans beat Kent by 98 runs

SOUTH AFRICANS
G Krieger lbw b Igglesden 13
G J Liebenberg lbw b Couchock 61
J H Kallis c Fulton b Patel 48
D J Cullinan b Igglesden 49
W J Cronje c Key b Patel 64
J N Rhodes b Igglesden 16
S M Pollock not out 10
M W Boucher not out 10
Extras (lb 7, w 6) 10
Total (7 wickets, 50 overs) 290
AA Donald, L Kuzener and PL Symcox did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-40, 2-155, 3-156, 4-288, 5-273, 6-290, 7-290
BOWLING: Igglesden 10-0-40-18, McCague 10-1-51-0, Thompson 10-0-39-0, Lung 26-0-26-0, Couchock 6-0-31-1, Patel 9-0-66-2

KENT
D P Fulton c Symcox b Donald 16
R T Key b Symcox 5
M J Walker c Boucher b Donald 15
N J Living b Symcox 3
G R Couchock b Kallis 14
S G Willis c Kuzener b Symcox 14
M M Patel c Cronje b Igglesden 3
J B Thompson not out 3
M J McCague c Liebenberg b Cullinan 11
A P Igglesden c Boucher b Patel 17
Extras (lb 1, w 8, w 2) 11
Total (444 overs) 182

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-68, 3-87, 4-97, 5-142, 6-158, 7-171, 8-183
BOWLING: Pollock 7-1-15-2, Kuzener 8-0-40-0, Donald 8-0-29-2, Cronje 8-1-31-1, Symcox 10-1-51-0, Kallis 4-0-15-1, Cullinan 7-0-12-1
Umpires: J H Hampshire and R Julian

Axa League

Derbyshire v Leicestershire

DERBY (Derbyshire won toss): Derbyshire (Aps) beat Leicestershire by seven runs

DERBYSHIRE
M J Slater c Nixon b Williamson 68
P J Barnett not out 5
A S Rollins not out 11
T A Tams c and b Wells 4
M J Wells c and b Wells 4
M E Cassar not out 24
D J Cash b Simmons 0
K M Roucher not out 15
Extras (lb 2, lb 10, w 3, nb 2) 17
Total (8 wickets, 40 overs) 190
P Alford, G M Roberts and K J Dean did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-64, 3-71, 4-127, 5-142, 6-158, 7-171, 8-183
BOWLING: Mulvey 8-0-20-0, Simmons 8-0-44-1, Wells 8-0-53-1, Brimicombe 8-0-28-0, Williamson 8-0-24-2, Dean 2-0-16-0

Leicestershire

LEICESTERSHIRE
*P V Symcox c Cork b DeFreitas 8
V J Wells b Cork 26
B J Smith b Roberts 38
J J Scudliffe b Alford 8
A Hazell c Rollins b Alford 7
P A Nixon not out 5
J M Davin c Cassar b Roberts 12
D J Stevens b Cork 21
J Williamson not out 11
Extras (lb 4, lb 3, w 2, nb 2) 11
Total (7 wickets, 40 overs) 189
M T Brimicombe and A D Mulvey did not bat.

Glamorgan v Yorkshire

CARDIFF (Glamorgan won toss): Yorkshire (Aps) beat Glamorgan by 37 runs

YORKSHIRE
M P Vaughan c Powell b Parfitt 25
C Willis c Collyer b Parfitt 16
D S Laryman c Snow b Couchock 47
A McGrath not out 65
B Parker c Parfitt b Thomas 0
Extras (lb 5, w 7) 12
Total (9 wickets, 40 overs) 226
R J Bailey, P M Hitchman, G M Harrington, R D Stamp and R J Schoobom did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-41, 2-48, 3-140, 4-219, 5-222

GLAMORGAN

1A D Shaw c Bailey b Sidebottom 5
A Dale lbw b Sidebottom 17
P A Couchock b Sidebottom 28
M J Powell c Vaughan b White 33
A W Evans c Bailey b Herrington 3
S J Boucher c Vaughan b Herrington 32
S D Thomas b Sidebottom 1
Wagge Youngs lbw b Sidebottom 0
J Walker not out 0
D A Couchock b Sidebottom 0
O T Parfitt b White 1
Extras (lb 11, w 6, nb 4) 19
Total (57.1 overs) 188

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-33, 3-95, 4-106, 5-161, 6-185, 7-185, 8-185, 9-188
BOWLING: Sidebottom 8-0-40-48, Herrington 7-0-30-4, Stamp 5-0-31-0, White 6-1-17-2, Harrington 8-0-30-2, Larmann 3-0-10-4, Vaughan 2-0-10-0
Umpires: J H Hains and D R Shepherd

Nottinghamshire v Gloucestershire

TRENT BRIDGE (Gloucestershire won toss): Gloucestershire (Aps) beat Nottinghamshire by one run

GLoucestershire
G I Macmillan c Gie b Evans 16
P L Holliday b Stann 17
M W Alleyne c Downman b Evans 5
A J Wright b Stann 4
D J Gurney not out 10
S C Russell c Tolley b Franks 40
T H C Hancock, run out Downman 73
R J Turner not out 7
M C J Bell not out 10
S W Tinsford not out 10
P J Parfitt not out 10
J K Newport not out 4
Extras (lb 11, w 6, nb 4) 19
Total (8 wickets, 40 overs) 185

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-29, 2-43, 3-44, 4-56, 5-58, 6-118, 7-183, 8-183
BOWLING: Franks 8-0-36-2, Evans 8-2-31-2, Tolley 8-0-37-1, Stann 8-1-41-1, Bates 9-0-31-1

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

M P Downman c Wright b Alleyne 25
P L Holliday b Stann 17
G I Macmillan b Alleyne 23
G F Russell c and b Russell 38
N A Gie not out 57
M A Tolley c Russell b Avers 0
W M Rothery b Avers 0
P A Stann b Wells 10
D G Saleh not out 4
K P Evans not out 4
Extras (lb 8, w 8, nb 4) 20
Total (8 wickets, 40 overs) 184

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-20, 3-57, 4-106, 5-109, 6-118, 7-180, 8-177, 9-184
BOWLING: Wells 8-1-29-2, Lewis 8-0-31-0, Alleyne 8-0-37-2, Avers 8-1-33-2, Macmillan 3-0-18-0, Hancock 5-0-31-0
Umpires: T E Jersey and G Sharp

Somerset v Northamptonshire

TAUNTON (Somerset won toss): Northamptonshire (Aps) beat Somerset by seven wickets

SOMERSET
M Stamp b Capel 33
P D Bates c and b Swann 36
G D Ross c Capel b Stamp 36
M N Lushwell c Stamp b Taylor 42
P D Bower c Warren b Rose 14
A Parsons c Swann b Rose 13
K A Parsons c Swann b Rose 13
M R Lushwell not out 18
Extras (lb 5, lb 6, w 7) 18
Total (7 wickets, 40 overs) 246

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-70, 2-137, 3-132, 4-187, 5-222, 6-228, 7-321
BOWLING: Rose 8-1-29-2, Parfitt 7-1-44-2, Swann 5-0-40-1, Capel 6-0-30-1, Taylor 8-0-59-1, Stamp 8-0-37-2

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

M R Lushwell c and b Truscott 36
R J Warren not out 29
K M Curran b Truscott 29
A J Parfitt not out 79
D G Saleh not out 4
Extras (lb 1, lb 6, w 11, nb 4) 22
Total (8 wickets, 39.2 overs) 249

R J Bailey, O J Capel, G P Swann, J N Snape, J P Taylor and P A Rose did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-82, 2-88, 3-210
BOWLING: Parsons 3-1-14-0, Rose 7-2-0-34, Cardick 8-0-29-0, Truscott 8-0-44-2, Mustaq Ahmed 8-0-68-0, Jones 5-0-30-0
Umpires: R Palmer and M J Hains

Worcestershire v Sussex

WORCESTER (Sussex won toss): Sussex (Aps) beat Worcestershire by 103 runs

SUSSEX
K Greenfield b Sherriff 16
K Newell c Moody b Hick 77
M G Stead c and b Newell 100
J R Carpenter c Lampitt b Leatherslade 16
M T E Peacey c Rhodes b Hick 2
D D Edwards c and b Newell 32
J S Humphries not out 7
J D Lewis not out 3
Extras (lb 13, w 15, nb 12) 37
Total (7 wickets, 40 overs) 359

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-39, 3-223, 4-228, 5-252, 6-252, 7-252
BOWLING: Newport 5-1-41-0, Moody 5-0-32-0, Sherriff 3-0-20-1, Kingworth 6-0-27-0, Lampitt 6-0-27-0, Hick 8-0-46-4, Leatherslade 5-0-18-0

Cambridge University v Durham

FENNER'S (second day of three): Durham, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 337 runs ahead of Cambridge University

DURHAM: First Innings 270 for 3 dec (M A Gough 125); Second Innings
J E Morris not out 110
J A Daley c Pymont b Lovinger 47
D D Coltingwood not out 24
Extras (lb 4, lb 1) 5
Total (1 wk) 188

FALL OF WICKET: 1-128
BOWLING: Lowe 6-1-21-0, Schaffer 7-0-11-0, Meiles dec 2-0-20-0, Lovinger 2-1-70-1, House 5-0-28-0, Hughes 9-1-25-0, Inran Mohammed 1-0-3-0

Cambridge University v Durham

FIRST INNINGS
J P Pymont c Phillips b Symington 10
J R Pymont not out 18
M J Ellis b Brown 0
G R Lovinger lbw b Brown 2
S W Lewis lbw b Brown 12
W J House c and b Symington 17
*J D Hughes c Pratt b Killean 26
P J Moffat lbw b Brown 10
J P Lowe lbw b Brown 0
D J Schaffer not out 0
Extras (lb 5, w 2, nb 4) 11
Total 119

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-19, 3-21, 4-25, 5-26, 6-31, 7-81
BOWLING: Brown 16-2-17-8, Killean 11-1-47-0, Phillips 15-10-8-0, Symington 6-1-34-2, Schaffer 6-1-7-8-1
Umpires: J C Balderson and H D Bird

Oxford University v Warwickshire

THE PARKS (second day of three): Warwickshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 102 runs ahead of Oxford University

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 307 for 7 dec (T Frost 111 not out); Second Innings
D P Collier not out 38
M J Powell not out 22
Extras (lb 4, lb 1) 5
Total (4 wk) 64

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-32, 3-47, 4-72, 5-110, 6-160, 7-167, 8-189
BOWLING: Lewis 5-1-20-0, Kirby 4-1-6-1, Robertson 6-0-24-7, Edwards 4-0-33-1, K Newell 8-0-33-4, Swann 4-1-0-20-2
Umpires: D J Constant and A A Jones

Middlesex v Essex

LIVERDINE (Essex won toss): Middlesex (Aps) beat Essex by two runs

MIDDLESEX
R L Johnson b Cousins 15
J L Langer lbw b Cousins 37
M R Harrison c Hussain b Wilson 57
C Paganey lbw b Cousins 40
G A Sharp not out 10
P N Westcott c S G Law b D R Law 20
D O Nash b Ross 29
K P Dunch not out 11
J P Hewitt lbw b Ross 4
I W Blainchell not out 1
Extras (lb 11, w 15, nb 2) 28
Total (8 wickets, 40 overs) 300

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-32, 3-47, 4-72, 5-110, 6-160, 7-167, 8-189
BOWLING: Westcott 5-1-25-2, Cousins 6-0-29-3, Law 4-0-12-0, Ferguson 5-1-26-0, Lightfoot 1-0-8-0
Umpires: N T Paves and N Cowley

Essex

D D J Robinson not out 63
S G Law b Dunch b Hewitt 13
N Hussain c and b Martin 13
R C Parr lbw b Martin 0
S D Paganey c and b Dunch 0
R J Collins c Johnson b Dunch 54
D J Law c Hewitt b Johnson 1
D G Watson not out 0
J E Breeley not out 0
Extras (lb 4, w 16) 20
Total (7 wickets, 40 overs) 188

Oxford University: First Innings

J A M Morris b Smith 5
N G Phipps c Clatter b Welch 15
M Syme c Frost b Edwards 21-0-1-0
J A G Fulton c Frost b Welch 5
C G R Lightfoot c Brown b Hemp 14
I Paster c Collier b Welch 18
R J Garrod not out 56
J P Ramesh c Brown b Hemp 18
S J Phipps not out 1
C R C Pinner not out 1
Extras (lb 6, lb 27, w 4, nb 2) 38
Total (8 wickets, 40 overs) 188

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-66, 3-83, 4-88, 5-134, 6-140, 7-177, 8-253, 9-290
BOWLING: Clatter 7-0-31-0, Munton 13-4-16-1, Smith 15-4-28-2, Sheehy 6-2-0-18-0, Welch 14-2-24-3, Edwards 13-3-42-1, Hemp 14-2-88-2, Collier 2-0-9-0
Umpires: N T Paves and N Cowley

ACN Trophy: Southampton: Hampshire

255-7 vs 124; Surrey 58, P R Whistler 61; Glamorgan 145 (D Dewood 61); Hampshire won by 120 runs

SCHOOLS MATCHES: O Edmunds

256-1 dec (M Stamp 102 not out) vs Edmunds 156-2 dec (D Law 156-0 dec)
*Forces 198-8 vs Club 72; Oundle 72-0 vs Oulby 7-12; Wispsingham 98; Oundle 102-1

*Paul Wispsingham, the New Zealand off-spinner, pressed his claim for a Test debut by taking five for 65 on the second day of their three-day match against a Sri Lanka Board President's XI in Colombo yesterday. The President's XI were dismissed for 204.

Sidebottom takes the honours free-for-all

Cork brings

Nottingham poor run ext

30p

THE TIMES

GET TO GRIPS WITH THE HAND OF GOD.

The elusive Maradona. Catch the unique portrait of a footballer in the second of four free World Cup guides. Only in The Times on Monday.

http://www.the-times.co.uk

CHANGING TIMES

Handwritten Arabic text

CRICKET

Sidebottom takes the honours in free-for-all

By IVO TENNANT

CARDIFF (Glamorgan won toss): Yorkshire (Apts) beat Glamorgan by 37 runs

AT SOPHIA Gardens yesterday, there was free admission for contrived cricket. Doubtless Will Woolter, that towering figure in Welsh sport, would have reckoned that should always have been the case, but no matter. An enjoyable and diverting Axa League match was won by Yorkshire, who, on a day on which the two leading clubs were not playing, went to the top of the table. They did so through quick scoring and, in particular, a spell of six for 40 by Ryan Sidebottom.

These figures included four wickets in one over at a time in late afternoon when Tony Cotey, who struck 78 off 87 balls, was batting as if a Glamorgan victory was far from improbable. He, Thomas and Coker were all bowled by the left-arm medium pacer and Waqar Younis, who can bat well enough to win a Test match, was leg-before. From 181 for four, the last six wickets went down for just seven runs. It was quick, accurate bowling of the kind that so often decides limited-overs matches.

Without Maynard, James and Croft, Glamorgan were at a considerable disadvantage before they won the toss and put Yorkshire in, which did not make a great deal of sense. They had, after all, not gained a victory in any of their four Axa League matches hitherto, and nominated a batting order that looked quite unrecognisable.

The club's decision to allow all spectators in for free was, in the sense that there was a capacity crowd, not ill-judged. Yet, on a glorious afternoon, how many of those individuals would have come anyway? A sponsorship deal with National Power apparently brought in the equivalent revenue to a full house, but that will not be forthcoming on whichever day of the week that what used to be a Sunday League fixture falls in future.

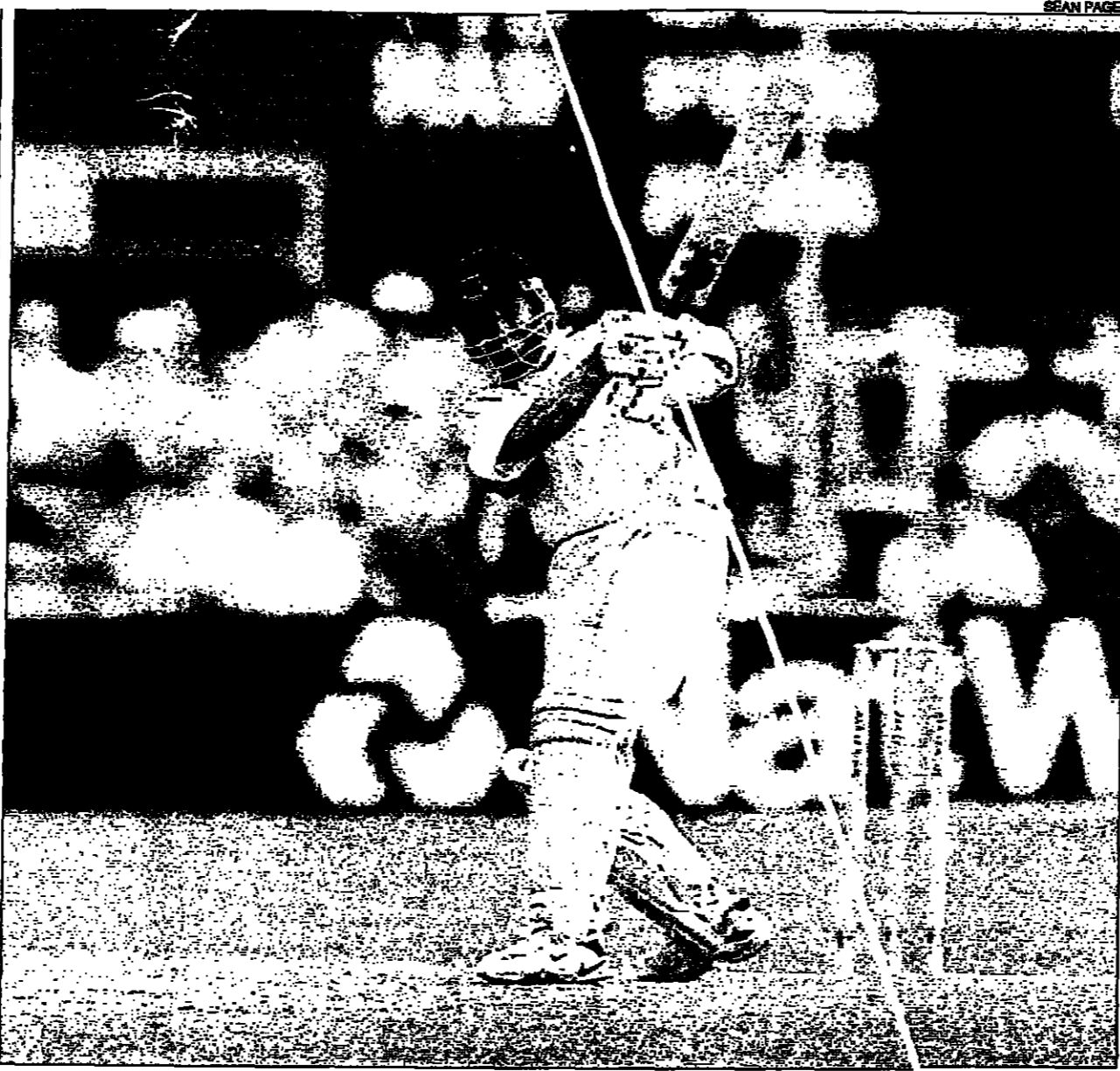
Mike Fatkin, the Glamorgan secretary, would rather this fixture — indeed, all the 40-over fixtures played yesterday — had been scheduled for the previous day, so that the England players, such as Croft, would have been available. His hope now is that those spectators who came on this occasion will not object to paying when they come again.

All Glamorgan need to do now is to win a few Axa League matches, whatever the day of the week. Their bowlers could not contain Yorkshire, whoever was at the crease. Vaughan and White began with 41 off the first ten overs before Byas and Lehmann, a formidable left-handed pairing, added 94 in 18 overs. They complemented each other as they clumped the ball all round Sophia Gardens.

Byas, dropped badly at cover when he had made 46, lifted Waqar for six over long-on in the penultimate over and finished with 71 off 41 balls, including 12 fours. McGrath, who has an eye for the reverse sweep as well as the lofted drive, struck his third half-century in this competition already this season. A total of 25 for five was not beyond Glamorgan's compass, but it was asking quite a bit of a side lacking its two best batsmen.

A decent start was essential. Glamorgan did not obtain it. Shaw was caught at the wicket leg glancing Sidebottom. Dale was leg-before. Powell was taken at backward point slicing an expansive drive and Evans, charging down the pitch, top-edged a cross batted swipe.

Cotey, the captain in Maynard's absence, square cut in his customary combative way, reaching a half-century off 58 balls with three fours, but his concern was who could stay in long enough at the other end. Ultimately, running out of partners, he stepped across his stumps, looking to swing Sidebottom to leg, missed and was bowled. With him went Glamorgan's hopes.



Keith Newell swings a ball from Moody to leg on the way to a career-best 97 at Worcester yesterday

Newells leave trail of confusion

By JACK BAILEY

WORCESTER (Sussex won toss): Sussex (Apts) beat Worcestershire by 103 runs

BOTH Keith and Mark Newell achieved their highest scores in the Axa League (or its equivalent) with 97 and 77 respectively and these innings, combined with a rather better display in the field than Worcestershire had to offer, were sufficient into the day — a day that had an element of high farce as well as a modicum of drama.

The odds always favoured Sussex. Apart from anything else, they are getting much practice at the 40-over game. What used to be the Sunday slag has become the any-day-of-the-week hustle and bustle. Such is the fixture list that Sussex will have played three Axa League fixtures in nine days when they meet Derbyshire at Horsham next Monday, and, by June 9, will be more than halfway through

their fixtures with three months of the season to run. It was no surprise, then, that they were in mid-season form. The Newell brothers, Keith and Mark, aided by indifferent bowling by all seven bowlers tried by Moody, with the honourable exception of Graeme Hick, saw Sussex to the dizzy heights of 221 before the second wicket fell. Nearly eight overs remained and since the second hundred had come from 12 overs, a monumental score was in prospect. In the event, Sussex were reined in by Hick and some improved fielding and catching. Even so, Worcestershire were left to score well above six an over to win.

Several factors during the Sussex innings had also led to the belief that Worcestershire were not exactly adept at helping themselves. There was the lack of discipline implicit in the bowling of 11 wides and six no-balls, thus preventing Sussex with nearly

three extra overs. Then there was the small matter of three dropped catches, all to the benefit of Keith Newell, and graciously presented by Solanki and Moody (twice). Worcestershire had already begun their innings before the true figure of the target they required was known. Not only that, but everyone, including the scorers, thought Keith Newell had made 103 when he had made only 97, and everyone thought Mark Newell had made 72 when he had, in fact, reached 77. Well, the brothers in helmets do look alike and they strike the ball in similar fashion, but when the umpire corrected a signal for six to make it four, this went unnoticed by the scoreboard.

Cricket enters the land of make-believe

The Owl and the Pussy-Cat were sitting by the river bank, eating honey and admiring their beautiful pea-green boat. "By Jove, Owl," the Pussy-Cat said, "where on earth did you get those runcible spoons? You don't see many of those at Peter Jones."



"Haw, haw!" Bunter, who came gallumphing into view, said, "you nicked them from Greyfriars!" "What are you doing, ill-mannered boy?" Owl asked. "You have no business to be in this story."

"We're having a midnight feast," Bunter said, spreading out his bounty of Jaffa cakes and fig rolls. "You can't have a midnight feast in the middle of the afternoon," the Pussy-Cat said. "It doesn't make sense."

"Words mean what he wants them to mean," Alice, who suddenly appeared, accompanied by the Mad Hatter, said. "I say, you chaps," an odd-looking character who had barged his way among them said. "Are we having a bit of a bash, or what?"

"It's that boastful Mr Toad," Owl said. "Don't like him in the least." "Toad Hall is unattended today," Toad said, "as Mr Toad is enjoying a spin in his new motor. Brrrr! Brrrr! Come along, Moley, don't be shy."

"Yes, it's cakes for everybody. Tuck in." "Good old Bunter!" "But lo!" the Pussy-Cat said, "who do I spy in the meadows beyond? Surely it can't be..." "It is," Owl replied. "The Famous Five are heading this way."

"It's a good job I did my prep!" Bunter said. "I've come straight from the Common Room," the beak said. "Keating, the bursar, told me there was a frightful noise going on. If you don't quieten down, I shall put you all on Swanton's."

"Not the 'Canterbury Torture'!" "Just so." "Well, sir, the Owl and the Pussy-Cat are entertaining us. They've been awfully decent."

Woodcock surveyed this unusual gathering, which, to his practised eye, had the makings of a riotous assembly. The Owl and the Pussy-Cat, The Famous Five, Toad, Moley, Ratty and Badger, Alice and The Mad Hatter. The Fat Owl of the Remove. The Pushmipullyu. Up to no good, the lot of them.

"No sign of the Firebird?" he asked, sarcastically. "Our Russian friend is expected later," Owl said. "One short!" Bunter said, giving the umpire's signal. "Haw, haw!"

"I've been marking your papers," Woodcock said. "Not bad, considering, and a good deal better than some." "Gosh!" Bunter said through a mouthful of mince pie.

"Now, will somebody tell me what is going on? This behaviour seems utterly goatish. What is behind this flight of reason?" "Haven't you heard?" "Heard what?" "The marvellous news."

"Marvel of all marvels." "There will be a peeling of bells." "A lighting of bonfires." "A general rejoicing." "Right across the land." "Hurrah for England!" "Yes, hurrah!" "We need fear no one." "We're on our way!" "Look out, world!" "And what is this marvellous news, pray, tell."

"They've picked Chris Lewis."

Cork brings halt to late Leicestershire charge

By MICHAEL AUSTIN

DERBY (Derbyshire won toss): Derbyshire (Apts) beat Leicestershire by seven runs

DOMINIC CORK, bowling an admirable last over, contained Leicestershire to three of the 11 runs they needed in a tantalising finale after Michael Slater, the Australia batsman, had scored a maiden half-century for Derbyshire.

Slater, who suffered a hand injury on the first morning of the Britannic Assurance Championship season, only returned after a month's absence against Warwickshire last Sunday. This match was played on the same pitch and it yielded runs just as grudgingly. A total of 201 had been a winning score for Warwickshire, but Derbyshire, batting first this time, could muster only 190 for six, despite Cassar and Krikken plundering 31 from the final three overs delivered by Mullally and Simmons.

The prime partnership between Slater and DeFreitas was worth 55 from 12 overs. Slater, cutting and driving impressively, hoisted Brimston for a steeping six over long-off and DeFreitas relished his new role at five in the batting order. DeFreitas, facing diligence with bursts of bravado, eventually lofted a catch to deep mid-wicket — a routine

dismissal compared with that of Rollins, who was adjudged to have been run out rather than stumped. Rollins advanced down the pitch to Brimston with no intention to take a run and Nixon, having fumbled the ball at the first attempt, took it at the second and knocked off the balls from in front of the wicket. Barnett had also been run out, sacrificing himself nobly to prevent Slater from suffering that fate. Slater glanced Mullally, underestimating Nixon's agility and embarked on a perilous single with the ball already in the wicketkeeper's hands.

Logically, Barnett should have sent back Slater, but ran himself and was beaten by Mullally, following through. When Nixon stumped Slater off a leg-side wide from Williamson, Derbyshire were wobbling, but Cassar followed the example of DeFreitas and came to terms with the slow pitch, which challenged all except the most vigilant of batsmen. Tweats was lured into mistiming a drive and provided a return catch for Wells, and Cork was bowled off his pads.

The game's delicate balance was reflected by Leicestershire at 73 for three, having an identical 20-over score to that of Derbyshire. Simmons had been the first to go. Attempting to pull DeFreitas, he was caught at slip, then Cork bowled Wells, who played on while attempting to run the ball to third man. DeFreitas exploited conditions that were sympathetic to purveyors of swing and Aldred bowled Sutcliffe with a full-length delivery.

Nottinghamshire's poor run extended

By RICHARD HOBSON

TRENT BRIDGE (Gloucestershire won toss): Gloucestershire (Apts) beat Nottinghamshire by one run

THE optimism of the winter months has dissipated quickly from Trent Bridge. Defeat in the Axa League yesterday, however narrow, means Nottinghamshire have now lost their past six games in all cricket and the body language of Paul Johnson, the captain, appears that of an unhappy man.

Nottinghamshire required 11 off the final over from Jon Lewis but just two arrived from the first three balls and Noel Gie perished for 57 along the way. Evans drove the next to the cover boundary and then scampered a leg bye, before Franks was run out going for a third run from the final ball that would have levelled the scores.

Earlier, Archer and Gie put on 52 for the fourth wicket before Archer was run out by a smart throw from Lewis. Tolley followed in the next over but Gie survived chances on 31 and 34 to keep Nottinghamshire in contention in the final stages.

Hewitt's safe hands put paid to Essex

By THRASY PETROPOULOS

LUXBRIDGE (Essex won the toss): Middlesex (Apts) beat Essex by 2 runs

IT NEEDED a nailbiting finale to achieve it, but Middlesex pulled off a thrilling victory over Essex when Danny Wilson failed to hit the boundary needed off the last ball of the match.

In what amounts to a dress rehearsal for next week's Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-final at Lord's, Essex had appeared to be cruising to victory when Darren Robinson, who had three lives in his 83, put together a partnership of 107 with Stephen Peters.

Middlesex have much to thank Jamie Hewitt for. On a day when fortunes swung almost by the over, it was his marvellous tumbling catch at long off to see off Danny Law that finally gave them the belief that the match was theirs.

That catch in the penultimate over meant that Essex needed nine off the final over, bowled by Richard Johnson, and it proved just beyond their reach. It was some time before, however, that the telling blow was achieved for Middlesex. Neil Martin's

Patient Penberthy ensures victory

By RUPERT COX

TAUNTON (Somerset won toss): Northamptonshire (Apts) beat Somerset by seven wickets

IT IS said that winning is a habit and, by the same token, so is losing. Both Somerset and Northamptonshire have had sketchy starts to their one-day campaigns and for long periods of their Axa League encounter at Taunton yesterday, they traded blows without illustrating the know-how to turn the match to their advantage.

In the end a fine 79 from Tony Penberthy, the Cornwall-born left-hander, tipped the balance in favour of the visitors.

On an excellent pitch Northamptonshire plumped for an extra spinner, doubtless chastened by the loss of two overs in their match with Yorkshire on Sunday. Nonetheless, with Michael Burns and Piran Holloway making use of the conditions, Somerset reached fifty in the twelfth over. When Burns was bowled by Capel, backing away to hit to his favoured off side, Rose, batting at No 3, dominated a stand of 50 in seven overs with Holloway as he rushed to 36 from 32 balls.

In a subdued Northamptonshire performance in the field only Franklyn Rose came through unscathed, with figures of two for 25. The arrival of Mark Lathwell brought sympathetic applause from the home support, in acknowledgment of Lord's last week when he had only gained a place because of injury. Ranked by a diet of second-team cricket, Lathwell raced to 42 from 29 balls with four fours and two sixes.

As Gloucestershire doubled the construction men working on the new development at the Radcliffe Road End might have been advised to don body armour to go with their hard

armour to go with their hard

armour to go with their hard

Advertisement for 'THE TIMES 1000' index. Text includes: 'GET THE FACTS and THE FIGURES', 'The Times 1000 1998', 'Published every year since 1967', 'With full listings of the UK's and Europe's top 1000 companies', 'NEW for 1998 The Times 1000 Index on CD-Rom', 'The ready-made mailing list to 2000 of the world's largest businesses £150 (inc. VAT)', 'SPECIAL OFFER Buy the book and the CD for just £170 (inc. VAT)', 'Our 24-hour telephone ordering service on 0181 307 4052 or send this coupon to Dept. 941X, HarperCollins Publishers, Westerhill Road, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow, G64 2DT.', 'Please send me... copies of The Times 1000 1998 @ £40', 'Please send me... copies of The Times 1000 1998 Index on CD-Rom @ £150 (inc. VAT)', 'I enclose a cheque for £... made payable to HarperCollins Publishers or please debit my MasterCard/Visa (delete where necessary)', 'Card No. [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []', 'Expire date: /', 'Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms/Other: _____ Surname Initials', 'Address: _____', 'Postcode: _____', 'Signature: _____ Please allow 21 days delivery'

SWIMMING: FINDINGS OF SECOND SAMPLE WILL DECIDE OLYMPIC CHAMPION'S FATE

Smith relies on expert help to clear her name

By CRAIG LORD

MICHELLE SMITH, the triple Olympic champion accused of manipulating a urine sample provided for drug testers, will not be present when the B sample, or twin, of the specimen is tested in Barcelona tomorrow morning.

The Irish swimmer will be represented in Spain by her solicitor, Peter Lennon, and a biochemist from a Dublin hospital who will act as the expert witness to an analysis that will determine whether she faces suspension.

Lennon hinted yesterday that the Smith camp will fight on if the B sample confirms the findings of its twin, with the swimmer's defence likely to rest on the technicalities of whether proper testing procedures were followed throughout the chain of command.

The B sample will prove or disprove Fina's assertion that Smith tampered with the urine specimen at the time she provided it at her home in Ireland on January 10. The specimen was collected by Al and Kay Guy, a man-and-wife testing team working for International Drug Testing and Management (IDTM), the agency that carries out Fina's out-of-competition testing programme.

Fina claim that the A sample contained levels of alcohol that are not compatible with human consumption. In other words, someone poured alcohol - believed to be whiskey - into the urine sample. If the B sample proves to be a twin of the A sample, it will pose the question, how did the alcohol get there?

She was watched by Kay Guy at the time she provided the sample. Given that the alcohol could not have passed through Smith's bladder in the normal way, and assuming normal monitoring procedures were observed, the only way she could have passed it into the specimen container would be through the use of a condom or similar device, which could have contained the alcohol and been inserted into her vagina.

However, the Smith camp has suggested that the container used to test the A sample in Barcelona may have been cleaned with industrial alcohol, which was present when Smith's specimen was poured into it. That possibility will stand or fall on the B sample, which should have an unbroken seal and can be tested in a clean jar.

Medical experts confirm that alcohol could be used to spoil the validity of a urine sample. There is no other reason why an athlete would want to pour whiskey into a specimen.

Lennon said yesterday that he expected the testing to start at 10am and last for up to three hours. He hoped to have a decision the same day, though he believed the bureaucracy could take up to a week.

If the B sample confirms the A sample findings, a speedy decision is essential if Fina is to avoid a farcical situation in which Smith races this weekend at the French national championships in the knowledge that she faces exclusion from the sport.

Smith would have a right to a hearing before the Fina Doping Panel of three lawyers. Once the panel has decided on the level of penalty for Smith, she may then appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland.



Smith's golden reign could be ended if the B sample confirms the A sample findings

Lennon has hinted that Smith's defence will rest on such technicalities as whether the specific gravity of the urine sample she provided in January reached levels acceptable for analysis.

He has shown journalists the carbon copy of the form signed by the Guy and Smith on January 10 to the effect that correct procedures had been followed. The box on the form available for testers' comments is blank on Smith's carbon copy.

However, the Guy may have later raised concerns about issues that were unhappy with Smith may claim that such comments are inadmissible because the Guy should have made their concerns known to her on January 10.

Another point yet to be clarified is why Fina has not enforced its rules that allow for sanctions against swimmers who fail to make themselves available for out-of-competition testing three times or more in an 18-month period.

Smith missed tests in October 1996, on January 8 this year - two days before the problematic test - and another since. Gunnar Werner, honorary secretary of Fina, confirmed that Smith had missed "two or three tests" but that the January 8 test would not be counted as a no-show because "she was there two days later".

Humphries is happy to meet his detractors head-on. "I have skipped a boat before and got it round the world in very difficult circumstances," he said. "As far as keeping a crew together and racing, that Whitbread campaign was quite a success."

It is easy to forget that Humphries is still only 26. After spells in the Royal Yachting Association youth squads, sailing 420s, 470s and Lasers, Humphries, who left school at 16, sailed his first Whitbread on *With Integrity* in 1989-90. In the next race, at the age of 21, he became the youngest to skipper a boat in a Whitbread when he led the young team on *Dolphin & Youth*.

Since then he has been successful on the domestic Melges 24 circuit and, in this race, has become a key part of Krantz's team on *Swedish Match*.

He had originally set off as driver on *America's Challenge*, skippered by Ross Field, but was fortunate to be picked up by Krantz in Cape Town. The Swedish skipper was impressed with Humphries, who specialises as a downwind helmsman, and by Fremantle he had made the newcomer one of three watch leaders on the *Match*.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Cooking up controversy

Chef For a Night Channel 4, 9.00pm
The latest amateur cook who thinks he can outdo the professionals is Bill Chapman from Manchester. His culinary credentials are not clear, though he was a baker before giving up work to look after his disabled father. But he is not lacking in confidence. One day, he tells us, he will own one of the best restaurants in the country and he has a name for it. Just William. First, though, he must convince the diners of an hotel in Rochdale to try something more adventurous than meat and two veg. The trouble is that the patrons are happy with the carvery, which offers generous portions of predictable food at modest prices. Bill's menus (available on television for those moved to try them) are not cheap and to the traditionally minded may seem a touch fancy. His night in the kitchen promises to be an interesting one.

Out of Hours BBC1, 9.30pm
This is yet another medical drama in an already overcrowded field, but at least *Out of Hours* has come up with a hitherto untapped subject, doctors who cover for GPs at night and at weekends. Playing three such deputising medics are John McArdle, once of *Brookside*, Lindsey Coulson, once of *EastEnders*, and Dominic West, a television newcomer. It is a bit like *Casualty* in reverse. Instead of the patients going to the hospital, the doctors go to the patients. As in *Casualty* each episode features a raft of medical emergencies, with the ups and downs of the doctors' private lives providing additional plotlines. The series gets off to a workmanlike, if slightly lukewarm, start as one doc treats wedding guests with food poisoning, another is called out on a meningitis alert and the third gives roadside treatment to the victim of a car crash.

Crossing the Lines BBC2, 9.30pm
John Simpson launches a three-part documentary about the Red Cross, which was founded to care impartially for the victims of war and is finding that admirable mission ever harder to discharge. In his first film Simpson underlines the point by



Professor Lord Winston (BBC1, 10.20pm)

visiting two countries where the International Committee of the Red Cross is struggling to maintain a presence, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Colombia. In each case the wars are civil conflicts, which means that the ICRC is caught between opposing factions and has to tread a fine political line. The dangers cannot be underestimated. In 1996 nine ICRC delegates lost their lives, six of them in one dreadful incident in Chechnya. Simpson's reporting, as you would expect, is trenchant and balanced and his camera crew manages to get into some tough places.

The Human Body BBC1, 10.20pm
Controversy has preceded this series by Professor Lord Winston but the opening programme, at least, features none of the dead bodies that have threatened to cause offence. In any case, Winston is one of the friendliest of presenters and an ideal choice to explain human biology to a non-specialist audience. Apart from his credentials as a doctor and scientist, the series features camerawork that can get inside the body as never before - we have a glimpse behind Winston's ear drum. Tonight he lays out the ground, charting the life of the average British woman (she will spend 12 years watching television and live until the age of 79), offering a potted history of human evolution and stressing that he will be dealing as much with people as science. Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

Afternoon Play: Jerusalem North West Radio 4, 2.15pm
This first play for radio by the actress Vanessa Rosenthal is a love story with an edge. It is beautifully told, with dialogue so carefully crafted that it carries a sense of being overheard. The story is recalled in retrospect by Maggie (Sarah Lancashire), a widow recently moved to a Jewish home for the elderly. There is an early clue to the story she will unfold when Maggie joins a child singing *Once In Royal David's City*; the young Maggie, brought up a Christian, had, during the war, met and fallen in love with Harry (David Fleeshman), a Jew. Their families fight the union but to no avail and Maggie converts to Judaism. There are many tough moments ahead but the play's message is ultimately uplifting.

Costing the Earth Radio 4, 9.00pm
A new series of the environmental programme starts with the dreaded car, joint public enemy number one (with the cigarette). Cars are similarly addictive in their way, especially when set against the alternatives: walking, cycling and public transport. The first two of these have nowhere to put the dog and the last bus tends to leave the house five minutes before the start of work. Therefore *Costing the Earth* correctly concludes that the car is not going away and instead sets out to discover why it is that fuels which do not drill holes in the ozone layer are available but not widespread use. Gas, a fuel now used by the Queen and John Prescott (but in separate vehicles), is the prime candidate. Peter Barnard

WORLD SERVICE

6.30am News 7.15 In Sight 7.30 World of Football 8.00 News 8.15 Off the Shelf 8.30 Meridian Live 9.00 News (9.45 only) News in German 9.10 Peace for Thought 9.15 Wesley 9.30 Everywoman 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 The Farming World 10.30 My First 100 Days 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsweek 11.30 One Planet 12.00 Newsweek 12.30pm World of Football 1.00 News (9.45 only) News in German 1.15 Britain Report 1.15 Britain Today 1.45 Soundbyte 1.45 Sports Roundup 2.00 Newsweek 3.00 News 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Megatons 4.00 News 4.05 Sports Roundup 4.15 Performance 4.30 Everywoman (9.45 only) News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World News 6.00 Britain Today 6.00 News 6.15 In Sight 6.30 From Our Own Correspondent (9.45 only) News in German 6.45 Sports Roundup 7.00 Newsweek 7.30 The World 8.00 News 8.01 Outlook 8.25 Peace for Thought 8.30 Meridian X-Press 8.50 Newsweek 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 On Screen 11.00 Newsweek 11.30 In Sight 11.45 Sports Roundup 12.00 News 12.05pm Outlook 12.30 Multitrack X-Press 1.00 Newsweek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsweek 3.00 Newsweek 3.30 Meridian Books 4.00 News 4.05 World Business Report 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 The World Today 8.00 The World Today

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme 8.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News 1.00pm Flanagan and Co 4.00 Nationwide with Alan Winters 7.00 News Extra 7.30 John Inverdale's Football Night Juventus v Real Madrid in the European Cup final in Amsterdam. Plus, the National Lottery result 10.00 Lighthouse 11.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

7.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Paul Oyster 1.00pm Nick Abbott 4.00 Robb Barnes 7.30 Ray Coles 10.00 Mark Forster 2.00am Calum Jones 5.00 Jeremy Clark 5.00 Jeremy Clark

TALK RADIO

6.30am Kirsty Young with Bill Overton 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 5.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Dealey 7.00 Anna Rastburn 8.00 James White 1.00am Ian Collins 5.00 The Early Show

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Petroc Trelawny, Parry (At the Round Earth's Imagined Corners); Farah (Masques et Bergamasques)
9.00 Masterworks with Parry Gons, Garthwin (Overture); Girl (Liszt); Johann Strauss (son) (Annen-Polka); Beethoven (Piano Trio in C minor)
11.30 Artists of the Week: Evelyn Tipton
11.40 Richard Coates presents the 'Temple' world of car bombs; unravels the plotline of *Hamlet* and plays some of the music associated with it
12.00 Composer of the Week: Vivid
1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert: Manchester International Cello Festival 1998. Rodney Stafford introduces the second of two recitals from the festival that took place at the Royal Northern College of Music earlier this month. Today's programme features music inspired by the cellist Emanuel Feuermann
2.00 The BBC Orchestra. The BBC National Orchestra of Wales
4.00 Choral Evensong. Live from Winchester Cathedral
5.00 In Tune. Graham Vick talks to Sean Rafferty as he embarks on performance of Mozart's *Da Ponte* trilogy of operas for Glyndebourne Opera
7.30 Performance on 3: Clocks and Clouds. Live from the Festival Hall, London, as part of the continuing Legat series which combines his music with seminal masterpieces of this century. Debussy (La Mer); Ligeti (Concerto for Flute and Chamber Ensemble); Liszt (Concerto for 2 pianos in E flat); Schubert (Symphony No 5 in B flat); Hummel (Trumpet Concerto in E flat); Haydn (Symphony No 96 in D) 11.00 Menu at Night 2.00am Concerto (1) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

RADIO 4

6.00am Today, with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie. Includes 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sports News 7.45 Thought for the Day
8.25 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 Inbetween, with the Times columnist Libby Purves
9.45 (LW) Daily Service. From the Byzantine Church at Sardis. Presented by Pauline Webb Director of Music, Gordon Shaw
9.45 (FM) Serials: Before I Say Goodbye Ruth Picardie describes what it is like to be told that you are terminally ill when you have everything to live for (3/5)
10.00 News; Woman's Hour with Jenni Murray and guests. Includes Postcards: The Last Waltz by Sue Tealton (3/5)
11.00 News; Messages to Myself. How a British architect found the American dream a disaster. Clay extracts read by Martin Jarvis (2/5)
11.30 The Radio 4 Book of the Week: The Temple. An affectionate look at Paul and Steve Temple. The detective aficionado Professor Jeffrey Richards revisits the 'Temple' world of car bombs, poisoned cocktails, gardeners and rogues, where the villain is always caught (1/5)
12.00 News; You and Yours 12.37pm Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nicky Clarke
1.30 Guess What? Barry Took questions regular team member Geoffrey Durham, who is joined by Nigel Dempster and Frances Edmunds
2.00 News; The Archers (1)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Jerusalem North West, by Vanessa Rosenthal. Starring Sarah Lancashire, David Fleeshman, Brigit Forsyth and Ann Rye. See Choice
3.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time. Pippa Greenwood, John Cushnie and Bob Flowerdew answer questions sent in by post. With chairman Eric Robson (1)
3.30 The Last of the Mohicans (3/5)

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.8-98.8. RADIO 2. FM 89.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6. LW 198. MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 993, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648. LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1062, MW 1063, 1069. Television radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNameer.

SAILING: BRITON PUTS NEW-FOUND DETERMINATION DOWN TO INFLUENCE OF KRANTZ AND WILLIAMS

Humphries' detractors may meet match

FROM EDWARD GORMAN SAILING CORRESPONDENT IN LA ROCHELLE
THERE are those in British professional sailing who dismiss Matt Humphries as a lightweight, a big talker with a modest record who could never command the respect of the

most talented ocean-racing sailors this country can produce. Humphries is determined to prove them wrong and may well do so. To say he is a changed man would be an exaggeration, but he has certainly come a long way since he first set foot on Gunnar Krantz's and Earle

Williams's *Swedish Match* in Cape Town after his original boat in the Whitbread Round the World Race, *America's Challenge*, ran out of money. Having previously been a fully paid-up member of the hard-drinking and hard-smoking school of British sailing, he has learned on *Swedish Match* what professional dedication and commitment are all about.

When he first sailed on the elegant dark blue boat, still favouring to finish second overall behind Paul Cayard's *Freemantle*, he got off in Fremantle amazed by the sustained level of determination in a team in which nothing less than total effort and concentration was required.

"Gunnar and Earle have pulled me up to a much higher level," he said as the preparations for leg nine, to Southampton, began. "It's the overall approach, the sheer determination and lack of laziness which you sometimes see. I've now learnt to hate to be behind," he said. No one knows who might lead a British campaign in the next race in 2001 - the Volvo Ocean Race - but Humphries is happy to set out his stall. The next race will be his fourth, but he will be only 30 when it starts and he believes that the time will be right for him to mount what he hopes will be a serious British-sponsored crack at the title.

"The aim would be simply to win the race," he said. "I feel I will be in a very strong position. Thirty is a good age to do it, mentally and physically, and I feel it is a challenge I am ready for." Humphries is happy to meet his detractors head-on. "I have skipped a boat before and got it round the world in very difficult circumstances," he said. "As far as keeping a crew together and racing, that Whitbread campaign was quite a success."

It is easy to forget that Humphries is still only 26. After spells in the Royal Yachting Association youth squads, sailing 420s, 470s and Lasers, Humphries, who left school at 16, sailed his first Whitbread on *With Integrity* in 1989-90. In the next race, at the age of 21, he became the youngest to skipper a boat in a Whitbread when he led the young team on *Dolphin & Youth*. Since then he has been successful on the domestic Melges 24 circuit and, in this race, has become a key part of Krantz's team on *Swedish Match*.

3 DAYS TO GO... Prutour PROUDENTIAL



Humphries is eager to mount a strong British challenge

Answers from page 42
STRABISMUS
(a) A squint. The vision of the eyes deviates from the parallel. In strabismus, the eyesight from each eye can converge (as in knock-knees, spread outwards (as in bow or jockey's legs) or vary vertically (as with searching eyes). From the Greek word. When strabismus is congenital, the squint stays constant whatever the eye movements. When strabismus is caused by damage to an optic nerve, the angle of the squint can vary with eye movements.
STRINGHALT
(a) An affection of the hind legs of a horse which causes certain muscles to contract spasmodically.
CAVESSON
(a) A kind of noseband of iron, leather or wood, "fixed to the nostrils of a horse, to curb or render his susceptible through the pain it occasions".
HUMORAL
(c) Contained in or involving the blood or other bodily fluid. From the Latin *umor, humor* fluid. "Human breast cancer may well be initiated by a virus but promoted by humoral factors, in particular sex hormones."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1. Rd7 N5 (1... Nd7 2. Re4 and 3. Rd4 mate; meanwhile, White threatens 2. R4; 2. Rd4 N5; 3. Rd7).

Beware, the end is a low probability event

Imagine if a doctor called you into his surgery and outlined, in a grave tone, various fatal diseases you could have contracted. Now imagine that, after an hour of long-faced prodding at your chest, the doctor put down his stethoscope and told you that — just as he had suspected all along — it was only a slight sniffle that was making you feel under the weather. Imagining it? Then you have a sense of what it felt like to watch *Knocking at Doomsday's Door* (ITV). Lawrence Moore's documentary last night not only pulled the rug from under itself, but had the additional handicap of not even offering us any new crackpot theories to get (even temporarily) fretful about. There was just the usual parade of slightly crazed human beings, all convinced that the end is nigh. But these are people who are going to make sure they don't die, if it's the last thing they do. It was the

television age's version of a visit to giggle at the lunatics at Bedlam. At our first stop — a gathering of doom-mongers, soothsayers and end-of-worlders at a "Prophets' Conference" in Phoenix, Arizona — the hot rumour is that the Queen of England is buying up large slices of Colorado in case cataclysmic climate changes make Colorado the last place on the planet still above water. She would then rebuild the British Empire from this new base. Now, if this story were true, wouldn't even Robin Cook have spotted it in his Foreign Office briefing papers? Then there were the Mayan prophecies of disaster, Red Indian forecasts of calamity and, of course, Nostradamus's warning that, in July 1999, "a great king of terror will descend from the skies and war will reign supreme". What did he mean? Something huge, like an asteroid? A bomb? Lord Irvine of Lairg's ego?

The trouble with swallowing such theories is that most of us find even many small things hard to believe — that Fergie will ever behave gracefully, for example, or that Bob Monkhouse will ever tell a funny joke — so it is all that surprising that we balk when it comes to believing whoppers? We were told that if a big asteroid hit earth it could be disastrous. Well, yes, it certainly would. But is it likely? We heard that the odds of our being hit by an asteroid are now shorter than winning the lottery — which sounds pretty dramatic, until you remember that the odds of walking up to a stranger and correctly guessing his telephone number are also shorter than winning the lottery. Still worried? Far more scary than the predictions were the people making them. Particularly creepy was Antonio Carducci, who has sunk

his fortune into building a concrete survival complex in Nowhereville, Texas, which he envisages will be a children's refuge when doomsday comes. Carducci has stashed away 35 tons of canned food, plus some tomato sauce. Most of the cans are filled with beans. Let's assume Carducci survives the big bang. After he's got through his ten tons of beans, even if there are any other survivors in

Texas, they're not going to want to get close to him, are they? Certainly not downwind of him, anyway. Only long after all the talk of Armageddon do we get a chance to hear Dr Edward Bowell, of the Lowell Observatory, tell us that he's "fairly relaxed and sanguine about the possibility of being hit by an asteroid or a comet. They are, after all, very low-probability events, but high-consequence events." Put it this way: another high-consequence but low-probability event would be Gwyneth Paltrow coming up and saying "Hey Joe, please ravish me now and for the rest of my life" at the exact same time as George Soros was pleading with me to take \$10 billion off his hands. Does that put the asteroid danger in any clearer perspective? In last night's *Home Ground: The Doctor's Story* (BBC2), Samantha Rosie produced an elegant and touching documentary

writing on about Labour's NHS ambitions: Harman was in London, but she could easily have been on another planet. Jean Alexander — who was a librarian in Liverpool before becoming Hilda Ogden in *Coronation Street* — reminded us in *One Foot in the Past* (BBC2) last night that most people's reaction to disaster is much more prosaic than building concrete doomsday survival complexes in the Texan desert. As Alexander showed us around her earliest workplaces at Picon and Toxeth libraries, she recalled that "Not even a direct hit stopped people wanting books. They just climbed over the rubble. How-to-do-it manuals were tops... Then the penny dreadfuls, the escapist tales of romance and adventure to help you get away from the war." Though with a tenor arsenal of beans, of course, maybe they could have persuaded the war to get away from them.



Joe Joseph

As HTV West except: 1.00pm A Country Practice (40846) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (2811551) 1.50-5.40 Shortland Street (6345136) 6.25-7.00 Central News (177575) 11.40 Absolutely Loaded (428402) 12.10am Pulling Power (9420890) 12.45 FILM: Everybody's All-American (82011716) 3.05 Vanessa (2252528) 3.40 Cybernet (65697421) 4.10 Central Jobfinder '98 (8001203)

- BBC1**
6.00am Business Breakfast (82407)
6.30 BBC Breakfast News (T) (45391)
9.00 Change That Transforming a glass door into a table (8944117)
9.25 Kilroy (T) (735240)
10.05 A Date with Fate Astrologer Bernard Fitzwater assesses whether two members of the public are true to their star signs (7321469)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (8070285)
10.55 The Really Useful Show (T) (4058440)
11.35 The General (653730)
12.00 News (T) (8719204)
12.05pm Women's World (1747240)
1.00 News (T) and weather (55778)
1.30 Regional News (T) (1351388)
1.40 The Weather Show (2291656)
1.45 Neighbourhoods (T) (8550619)
2.10 Racing from Goodwood Live coverage of the 2.40, 3.10 and the 3.40 races (943952)
3.50 Hubub (8071285) **4.05 The Family Ness** (550543) **4.10 To Me, To You** (638925) **4.35 The Damon Headmaster (T)** (185075) **5.00 Newsworld (T)** (266335) **5.10 Blue Peter (T)** (9082575)
5.35 Neighbourhoods (87020)
6.00 News (T) and weather (827)
6.30 Regional News (T) (407)
7.00 Celebrity Style Challenge Actor Shaun Williamson, Barry from EastEnders, and actress Adie Salem who played his convincing fiancée, receive a makeover. Presented by John Leslie (3233)
7.30 Tomorrow's World Preview of the astrological couple to face in the new West End production of *Dr Dolittle*. Craig Doyle reports on new ways of dealing with the tiger shark (T) (391)
8.00 Animal Hospital Shauna Lowy helps RSPCA inspectors to rescue a wounded goose from a lake. Rolf Harris meets vet Tessa Bailey's menagerie of pets. Last in series (T) (9643)
8.30 The National Lottery Draw Rod Stewart provides the music (T) (830778)
8.45 Points of View (T) (613001)
9.00 News (T) and weather (8914)
9.25 National Lottery Update (T) (174198)
9.30 Out of Hours New medical drama following the lives and loves of a group of deputising doctors on call. With John McArdle, Dominic West and Lindsey Coulson (T) (99748)
10.20 The Human Body: Life After Death A new series exploring the workings of the body, presented by fertility expert Professor Robert Winston (T) (337223)
11.15 The Day of the Jackal (1973) Edward Fox stars in this thriller following the preparations of a hit-man assigned to assassinate President de Gaulle. Directed by Claude Luce (14691310)
11.45 The Day of the Jackal (1973) Edward Fox stars in this thriller following the preparations of a hit-man assigned to assassinate President de Gaulle. Directed by Claude Luce (14691310)
1.30am Weather (3117976)
1.35 BBC News 24

- BBC2**
6.10am Empowerment (3201372) **6.35 Science Skills** (5482643)
7.00 Teletubbies (T) (9664020) **7.25 The Flintstone Comedy Show** (9650827) **7.50 Eight Stars (T)** (T) (7728204) **8.35 Top's Treasure Hunt (T)** (2571010) **8.35 The Great Escape Part 2** (198910)
8.45 The Record (4959204) **9.10 Baller File** (2427285) **9.30 Pathways of Ballet** (7382730) **9.45 Words and Pictures** (7387285) **10.00 Teletubbies** (88812) **10.30 Numberline** (6280575) **10.45 Marsalis on Music** (621372) **11.40 Watch Out!** (9480862) **11.55 Hands Up!** (5945233) **12.10am Talking Lunch** (3623846) **12.30 Working Lunch** (72372)
1.00 Dilly the Dinosaur (T) (1429185) **1.05 Bananaman (T)** (1429136) **1.10 The Countryside Hour: The Lens (T)** (1897338) **1.15 Flightline** In-flight diversions, and a new generation of helicopters capable of reaching almost 30,000ft (79792049) **2.38 Tales from the Net** (8530662) **2.40 News (T)** (8530662) **2.45 Westminster** (8713730) **3.55 News** (8472049)
4.00 Real Rooms (8459138) **4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook!** (T) (5452265) **4.55 Esther: Ally's Sufferers** (6412372) **5.30 Today's the Day (T)** (T) (558)
6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (T) (903827)
6.45 They Who Dare (742372)
7.00 Counterblast: Deadly Silence The harrowing story of a man's death while in police custody (T) (1865)
7.30 Levittan Contesting testimonies describing the Troubles in loyalist Rathcoole and nationalist Lenadoon. The enduring popularity of gardening, and Britain's oldest man recalls his memories of the former Prime Minister William Gladstone (933)
8.00 The House Detectives A chemist's in Cumbria (T) (7295)
8.30 Home Front Preparing a beach hut: a messy bachelor pad (T) (8020)
9.00 Steptoe and Son (T) (4556)

- HTV**
6.00am GMTV (9588391)
9.25 This Morning (T) (2896484)
9.50 Vanessa (T) (2185933)
10.10 This Morning (T) (28924049)
12.15pm HTV News and weather (6804914)
12.30 News (T) and weather (78198)
1.00 Shortland Street (40846)
1.30 Home and Away (75469)
2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (3941846)
2.45 Waffle (803310)
3.15 News (T) (3138933)
3.20 Regional News (3133846)
3.25 Potamus Park (T) (3123468) **3.35 Titch** (8094136) **3.45 Paddington Bear (T)** (2434136) **3.50 Kipper (T)** (2415001) **4.00 The Wombles** (6055654) **4.15 Jumanji (T)** (3128402) **4.35 How 2 (T)** (1851391) **4.55 Cartoon Time** (8373930)
5.10 WALES: Prime Time Diary (345136)
5.10 Sorted (6345136)
5.40 News (T) and weather (553914)
6.00 Home and Away (T) (989881)
6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (177575)
6.25 HTV Weather (504049)
6.30 The West Tonight (575)
7.00 Coronation Street Greg saves Les from a shabby situation, and Nick makes a prison visit (T) (8381)

- CENTRAL**
As HTV West except:
1.00pm A Country Practice (40846)
1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (2811551)
1.50-5.40 Shortland Street (6345136)
6.25-7.00 Central News (177575)
11.40 Absolutely Loaded (428402)
12.10am Pulling Power (9420890)
12.45 FILM: Everybody's All-American (82011716)
3.05 Vanessa (2252528)
3.40 Cybernet (65697421)
4.10 Central Jobfinder '98 (8001203)
- WEST-COUNTRY**
As HTV West except:
12.27pm-12.30 Illuminations (9723407)
1.00 Emmerdale (40846)
1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (2811551)
5.10-6.40 Home and Away (6345136)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (841117)
11.40 Renegade (990136)
- MERIDIAN**
As HTV West except:
12.15-12.30 News and Weather (6904914)
5.10-6.40 Home and Away (6345136)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (223)
6.30-7.00 Alfresco Outdoor Eating (575)
11.40 Charlie Grace (990136)
5.00am Freescreen (18111)
- ANGLIA**
As HTV West except:
1.00pm-1.30 Surprise Chefs (40846)
5.10-6.40 Shortland Street (6345136)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (177575)
11.40 Swift Justice (990136)
- S4C**
Starts: 6.00am Dhwedd (97827)
6.00 Sesame Street (75117)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (38001)
9.00 Yagellon (721440)
11.30 Powerhouse (3907)
12.00pm Ricki Lake (48827)
12.30 Sesame Street (87440)
1.00 Slot Mithrin (11330846)
1.15 Smot y Ci (11328001)
1.30 Travelog Treks (85886391)
1.50 FILM: The Cowboy (86823391)
3.30 Chelsea Live (861)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (488)
4.30 Countdown (372)
5.00 5 Pump (9058136)
5.15 Ffili (3118448)
5.30 Pet Rescue (952)
6.00 Newyddion (327827)
6.10 Hen (818758)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (818681)
7.25 Fflemio (947107)
8.00 Hawlio (5681)
8.30 Newyddion (1488)
9.00 Ffries (2952)
9.30 Ffries (87204)
10.00 Brookdale (823853)
10.35 ER (952861)
11.30 Whose Line is It Anyway? (22952)
12.00am Short and Curries (3800228)
12.15 Under the Moon (10458773)
2.30 NBA XXL (91353)
4.30 Gamesmaster (21112)
5.00 Dhwedd (1767880)

- CHANNEL 4**
6.00am Sesame Street (T) (75117)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (38001)
9.00 Schools: The English Programme (5534885) **9.45 Book Box** (73015681)
10.00 Stage Two Science (8371955)
10.15 Rat-A-Tat-Tat (8487705) **10.30 Lisa Looks Back** New Series (6448139)
10.45 Geography Junction (8434384)
11.00 First Edition (2873481) **11.15 The Mix** (286822)
11.30 Powerhouse (3907)
12.00 Sesame Street (48827)
12.30pm Light Lunch with Britain's 4 x 400m relay team (T) (82914)
1.30 Sandbox Animation (95986391)
1.50 The Gentle Sex (1943, b/w) Second World War documentary-style drama with Rosemond John, Lili Palmer and Joan Greenwood. Directed by Leslie Howard (T) (66823391)
3.30 Chelsea Live Sue Cook, Monty Don and Anna Swithnam chat at the Chelsea Flower Show. Designer Mary Quant and writer Lowry Turner discuss fashion; and cameraman Andrew Lawson offers advice on photographing gardening subjects (861)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (488) **4.30 Countdown** (T) (1844814) **4.55 Ricki Lake: My Gang** **5.00 Family (T)** (8407440) **5.30 Pet Rescue (R)** (952)
6.00 Party of Five (T) (912575)
6.50 Fresh Pop (632556)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (494049)
7.55 Open Your Mind Acting and drama (T) (857822)
8.00 Brookdale Gary revisits the lives of the Corkhills. Susannah confesses her feelings (T) (5681)
8.30 On the Piste (4/6) 600 British tourists board the express snow train and head for a wild weekend in Meribel (1612285)
9.00 Captive Heart: The James Mink Story (1996, TVM) with Louis Gossett Jr and Gene Hackman. Drama set in 1850s America. A black millionaire arranges a marriage for his half-caste daughter after he has found what he thinks a suitable husband, the marriage takes place, plunging his beloved daughter into the hands of a ruthless slave trader. Bruce Beresford directs (1173733)
10.50 The Jack Docherty Show (1773959)
11.30 The Morwenka Banks Show (3983338)
12.00 Major League Baseball - Live (6421004)
4.00am Monstars (29985599)
5.05 Thr0b (T) (95835763)
5.30 100 Per Cent (8975995)

- CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE**
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder N 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder N 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz
- 6.00am 5 News and Sport** (3084117)
7.00 WorldWide (T) (T) (3278778) **7.30 Milkshake!** (3118852) **7.35 Wrmie's House (T)** (7066223) **8.00 Havakazoo (T)** (1602285) **9.00 Realm of the Giant Salamanders (T)** (T) (1674865)
9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (9435440)
10.20 Sunset Beach (274889) **11.10 Lesza** (854338)
12.05 5 News at Noon (1654001) **12.30pm Family Affairs (T)** (T) (458759) **1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful** (327049) **1.30 Sons and Daughters** (4340730)
2.00 Open House with Gloria Hunniford. Gloria chats to Nerys Hughes and her daughter Mairé-Claire and the agony aunt Trisha Kretzmann (3855555)
3.00 100 Per Cent Gold (1632049)
3.30 The Kidnapping of Baby John Doe (1987) with Jayne Eastwood, Janet Lane-Cress and Geoffrey Sowers. Medical drama about a nurse and a surgeon taking the law into their own hands. Directed by Peter Gerretsen (3412594)
5.10 The Oprah Winfrey Show (9883914)
6.00 100 Per Cent (2488885)
6.30 Family Affairs (T) (2459117)
7.00 5 News (1817730)
7.30 Realm of the Giant Salamander The life and habitat of the giant salamander (1674865)
8.00 The Papp Chart presented by Rhona Mitra and Eddie Temple Mums (1633778)

- VIDEO Plus+** and **VIDEO Plus+** guides
The numbers after each programme are VIDEO Plus+ ratings, and after each DVD number for the relevant programme into your video recorder for easy listing.
For more details visit our website at www.times.co.uk/cd or call 0446 750710. Video Plus+ is a registered trademark of Sky Development Corporation. © 1998
- For further listings see Saturday's Vision**
- SKY 1**
12.00am *Talkback Teenage Alien Fighters* (89487) **2.30** *Games World* (5710204) **7.45** *The Simpsons* (2197) **8.15** *Comic Relief* (89487) **9.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **10.00** *Another World* (6440) **11.00** *Days of Our Lives* (84204) **12.00** *Manicured with Children* (92811) **12.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **1.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **1.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **2.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **2.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **3.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **3.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **4.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **4.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **5.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **5.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **6.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **6.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **7.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **7.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **8.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **8.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **9.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **9.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **10.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **10.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **11.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **11.30** *Jack Bauer* (92811) **12.00** *Jack Bauer* (92811)

- SKY MOVIES GOLD**
4.00pm *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1943) (4332351) **6.30** *Major League* (1989) (6345136) **8.30** *Major League* (1989) (6345136) **10.30** *Major League* (1989) (6345136) **12.30** *Major League* (1989) (6345136)
- SKY MOVIES GOLD**
4.00pm *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1943) (4332351) **6.30** *Major League* (1989) (6345136) **8.30** *Major League* (1989) (6345136) **10.30** *Major League* (1989) (6345136) **12.30** *Major League* (1989) (6345136)
- TNT**
8.00pm *National Velvet* (1944) (4332351) **11.15** *The Thin Man* (1934) (4332351) **1.00am** *Our Mother's House* (1987) (8230979) **2.45** *National Velvet* (1944) (4332351) **5.00** *Crave*
- SKY SPORTS 1**
7.00am *Sports Centre* (65811) **7.30** *Westing* (44204) **8.30** *Sports Centre* (82730) **9.00** *Racing News* (30310) **9.30** *Astrotics* (63543) **10.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **12.00** *Astrotics* (63543) **12.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **1.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **1.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **2.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **2.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **3.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **3.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **4.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **4.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **5.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **5.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **6.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **6.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **7.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **7.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **8.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **8.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **9.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **9.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **10.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **10.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **11.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **11.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **12.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487)

- SKY SPORTS 3**
12.00 *Westing* (8230979) **1.00pm** *Fish TV* (8230979) **2.00** *Supersports* (8710302) **3.00** *Rugby Union Classics* (8230979) **3.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **4.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **4.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **5.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **5.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **6.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **6.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **7.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **7.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **8.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **8.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **9.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **9.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **10.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **10.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **11.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **11.30** *Major League Baseball* (89487) **12.00** *Major League Baseball* (89487)
- EUROSPORT**
7.30am *Football* (89136) **8.00** *121 Football* (16652) **10.30** *Football* (89487) **12.00** *Football* (89487) **1.00** *Speedway* (89487) **2.30** *Live Cycling* (41188) **4.00** *Tennis* (44289) **5.30** *Live Athletics* (89487) **7.00** *Live Sports* (89487) **7.30** *Live Sports* (89487) **8.00** *Live Sports* (89487) **8.30** *Live Sports* (89487) **9.00** *Live Sports* (89487) **9.30** *Live Sports* (89487) **10.00** *Live Sports* (89487) **10.30** *Live Sports* (89487) **11.00** *Live Sports* (89487) **11.30** *Live Sports* (89487) **12.00** *Live Sports* (89487)

- SKY SELECT (CABLE)**
8.00pm *Brookdale* (952861) **8.30** *Brookdale* (952861) **9.00** *Brookdale* (952861) **9.30** *Brookdale* (952861) **10.00** *Brookdale* (952861) **10.30** *Brookdale* (952861) **11.00** *Brookdale* (952861) **11.30** *Brookdale* (952861) **12.00** *Brookdale* (952861)
- DISNEY CHANNEL**
6.00am *Under the Umbrella Tree* **6.30** *Jungle Cubs* **7.00** *Recess* **7.30** *Pepper Ann* **8.00** *Brand Spanking New Dog* **8.30** *Timon and Pumbaa* **9.00** *Aaidin* **9.30** *The Simpsons* **10.00** *Moose and Mike* **10.30** *Amazing Animals* **11.00** *Side Street* **11.30** *Winnie the Pooh* **11.45** *Alphie Cat* **12.00** *Little Bear* **12.30** *Let's Wiggly* **12.15** *Animal Show* **1.30** *Side Street* **1.45** *Small Stories* **1.50**

CRICKET 44,45

South Africans steamroller weakened Kent

SPORT

SWIMMING 46

Smith prepares for verdict on second drugs test

WEDNESDAY MAY 20 1998

England coach issues wayward midfield player with World Cup ultimatum

Hoddle calls time on Gascoigne

By Matt Dickinson

COUNSELLING and cajoling have failed to keep Paul Gascoigne out of the bars or the news, so Glenn Hoddle turned to the big stick yesterday, warning his wayward international that any more lapses in behaviour would result in banishment from the England World Cup squad. Gascoigne has finally found himself in the Last Chance Saloon.

While the England coach's heavy censure was timely, it was tempered by the acknowledgement that, a week before his 31st birthday, Gascoigne still cannot be trusted unless under lock and key. That is exactly where Hoddle intends to keep him for as long as possible in the build-up to France, monitoring everything from his breakfast cereal to his bedtime.

Much training work is still to be done, with Hoddle estimating that his most gifted player — and, with 54 caps, his most experienced — is 40 per cent short of fitness because of injury and the well-publicised binges that have so angered him.

"I went on record after Rome and said he has to keep himself fit between interna-

tionals to avoid injuries, so that's what disappoints me," Hoddle said. "It's a lifestyle thing as well, but that should not be a problem for him any more than David Beckham or Alan Shearer."

Gascoigne, who has missed England's three matches since the goalless draw with Italy in Rome that secured their qualification for the finals, has already been hauled in for extra training in advance of the match against Saudi Arabia at Wembley on Saturday.

Glory trail42
Kendall seeks security42

and spent yesterday under a sweltering sun draped in a waterproof jacket at Bisham Abbey. Despite his recent reported excesses, he was one of the most impressive players in a training game.

It is perhaps the knowledge that even an unfit Gascoigne is a class act that has helped his cause. Hoddle believes that the 27 days before England's first World Cup game, against Tunisia, offer enough time to get the Middlesbrough

midfield player in the condition that will be vital under a blistering Marseille sun.

However, the players have six days' home leave between their training camp in Spain next week and the departure for France on June 9, and Hoddle admitted yesterday that there was little he could do other than threaten the severest sanctions.

"Maybe I should take him home with me," Hoddle said, and he was not in the mood for jokes. "I've had a long and forceful chat with Paul and reminded him of what is expected. The thing is that every problem with Paul on the front pages has been out of international time, when he's not been under my wing."

"I can't control him then. No England manager can control his players, not Robson, Taylor or Venables. I can't be on their shoulder week in and week out. But I know that if he had done that [the drinking] under my jurisdiction, he would have been hammered a long time ago."

"When they go home they are still on England duty and that will be a good test. If I see him on a front page or in a nightclub, there will be a problem. It is time to be with families, not nightclubs or pubs."

Hoddle may have been remembering the incident in Hong Kong, when some England players were photographed pouring spirits down each other's throats in the so-called "Dentist's Chair" little more than a week before the European championship finals in 1996.

Gascoigne cited that episode as his principal line of defence yesterday. He insisted that he had done nothing wrong other than to get caught on camera.

"I cannot believe all this fuss over one night out," he said. "There's even doctors on the TV discussing me. I had a kebab one night and then a few drinks with Rod Stewart. You lot slaughter me and I can't understand it. Other lads have been out."

"I can see why Glenn is angry because of the timing. But there is always flak flying around before a tournament. It happened in 1990 and then 96 with the 'Dentist's Chair'. That was eight days before the tournament and this is 28. You were proven wrong then."

"There is nothing wrong with my lifestyle. I've got a great lifestyle. I've travelled the world, got a couple of nice cars and a few bob in the bank. Now I just want to knuckle down for the World Cup with the boys because among them I feel safe and protected."

"Some people only have ten days to get fit for a pre-season. I've got more than three



Gascoigne gets down to work yesterday as England's preparations for France begin. Photograph: Fiona Hanson

FSA goes on patrol in France to advise on tickets

By John Goodbody

ENGLAND'S leading supporters group yesterday criticised the Government's advice that spectators without tickets should not travel to the World Cup in France next month.

The Football Supporters' Association (FSA) said that such advice was "unrealistic" in the middle of the tourist season, when many British holiday-makers visiting France might like to try to obtain tickets.

The issue has already sparked a dispute between the British and French Governments. The Home Office has spent £1 million on a television campaign urging ticketless supporters not to go, and its stance has been backed by the Football Association, which also fears that followers will become frustrated and possibly violent when they cannot get into stadiums.

However, Michelle Demessine, the French tourism minister, has said: "I think that the British people can come and enjoy the atmosphere in the towns hosting the World Cup where there will be lots of events going on."

"The FSA will continue the ambassadorial role that it has played at other international tournaments in the past decade. With £50,000 sponsorship from Mastercard, it will have a bus with up to ten volunteer helpers travelling around France offering advice to England followers."

The FSA will advise about the dangers of buying black-market tickets. Kevin Miles, who will be the full-time worker, said: "I don't think our role is to act as a ticket agency, but we will give advice about the dangers. But any advice we could give would be undermined if we gave the impression that there was no such thing as a black market."

Allison Pilling, another FSA official, said that the Government's attitude over ticketless supporters could have been changed. "If we had the chance to talk to the Government beforehand, I think we could have come up with more of a compromise line, based more on what people are actually going to do."

Some 20,000 copies of a guide for supporters will be available next month by telephoning the FSA hotline on 0870-606721.



Hoddle "disappointed" by Gascoigne's reported excesses

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9					
10						
12	13		14	15		11
	17		18			19
20						
21					22	
23						24

No 1410

- ACROSS**
- 1 Film stars Audrey, Katharine (7)
 - 5 Punch-up (5)
 - 8 Frothing implement (5)
 - 9 Make more taut (7)
 - 10 Approx. thirteen-mile race (4-8)
 - 12 Disprove (6)
 - 14 Plumbing disc: bath? (6)
 - 17 Anti-Pict construction (8,4)
 - 21 Mental agony (7)
 - 22 Reorganise, retool (eg production line) (5)
 - 23 Set handled, produced, together (5)
 - 24 Monk's bald patch (7)

- DOWN**
- 1 The may tree (8)
 - 2 Little medicine bottle (5)
 - 3 Scruffy (7)
 - 4 Kind: a science magazine (6)
 - 5 One with inflexible views (5)
 - 6 Ancient Syrian Christian centre (7)
 - 7 Part of chain (4)
 - 11 (Eg play) preface (8)
 - 13 Charged: irritable (7)
 - 15 Unplaced horse (4-3)
 - 16 Prestige, official seal (6)
 - 18 BBC DG: sounds like floral tribute (5)
 - 19 W French province, once English (5)
 - 20 Sharp point on arrow, wire-gibe (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1409

- ACROSS: 1 Extravagant 8 Timid 9 Apprise 10 Yell 11 Colander 13 Irrupt 14 Beggar 17 Deceit 19 Snip 22 Gladden 23 Dross 24 Mexican wave
DOWN: 1 Entry 2 Tumbler 3 Aide 4 Amazon 5 Alphabet 6 Tread 7 Bearer 12 Appendix 13 Indigo 15 Gondola 16 Picnic 18 Charm 20 Piste 21 Odin

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

NEW TIMES CROSSWORD TITLES NOW AVAILABLE
The Times Two Crosswords (Book 42.98, The Times Crosswords (Book 20) Crosswords £2.99)
The Times Jumbo Crosswords (Book 3) is available to Times readers for just 14 (RRP £4.99)
Crossword Crosswords do not only also be ordered, with free delivery, along with copies from The Times Bookshop.
Call 0992 34 49 for credit card orders or for further details. If paying by cheque, please make payable to News Books/Crosswords and send to: The Times, 10 Bow St, Falmouth, TR11 2YX. Delivery in 10-14 days and subject to availability.

weeks." However, it is the six days away from the England party that Hoddle is worried about, when he wants Gascoigne surrounded by family and friends.

Paul Ince, Gascoigne's England midfield colleague, is struggling to be fit for the match against Saudi Arabia.

Ince is rated "doubtful" by Hoddle because of an ankle injury.

"There is a slight problem with Paul's ankle," Hoddle said. "He didn't play the last game of the season for Liverpool and he has not trained for two weeks. The ankle needs to be looked at closely over the

next few days. Realistically, I would say that Paul might miss Saturday as things stand, but he has got time to get fit and recover."

Hoddle has also given Jamie Redknapp, Ince's teammate, until Friday to prove that he has fully recovered from his ankle problem.

Fooling around with news values

Simon Barnes is puzzled by the outbreak of newspaper outrage at the activities of England's talisman

I must admit, I quite frequently find *The Sun's* headlines baffling, but yesterday's left me utterly dumbfounded. It said GAZZA LET US DOWN. Our turbulent sister is outraged by the latest scandal to explode around Paul Gascoigne.

Gazza drunk shock! Sun rises in east horror! Those guys down the road sure know what a story is. And it really is a terribly shocking thing, because Gazza went out and had a drink, and then, er, he went home. And then he got up the next day, and he was wearing the same shirt as he had the night before.

You see now why it is all so horrifying? No, neither do I. Poor timing, true. Gazza was in trouble the previous week, when it was revealed that he smoked 20 cigarettes a day. And now this. Can he possibly do anything worse? He really has just Let Us Down, hasn't he now?

Well, no he hasn't. Gazza is a bloody fool, but I will defend the death his right to be one. Who did he kill? Who did he hit? What did he damage? He didn't even trash the restaurant, and from the sound of it trashing it would be a service to humanity.

Gazza, it is alleged, got drunk in this ghastly restaurant with various ghoulish celebs. Such a night would make most of us throw up without recourse to alcohol, but Gazza has a right to drink beer in the company of his choice. Gazza, it was alleged, needed help to get to the car,

but he didn't drive it, so precisely what is the problem with that?

He smokes fags, so he is a bloody fool, but we knew that anyway. Tobacco is a lethal drug but it is legal, and the Government gets a big cut from it so the Government is immoral, but Gazza is not.

The boozing and smoking may affect his performance as a footballer, but that is his business. It may make us irritated if we are cheering for the team he happens to be playing for, but what's that got to do with anything serious? Gazza has done

some bad things, we know that, and the wife beating business of some years back is appalling. We are entitled to be shocked by that, we are entitled to be judgmental. But this latest Gazza story is a triviality wrapped in a fatuity inside a nugacity.

Gazza is notorious. That does not make it a crime for him to drink beer and smoke fags. A defence of this form of vilification of an athlete who makes bad headlines is that he should not do it, because he is a role model. Well, I have picked up this point many

times before, so I will be brief. Parents are role models. Footballers are picked for teams because they are good at kicking footballs. End of story.

There is a wildness about Gascoigne. On Monday in this newspaper he was talking about his belief in UFOs. It is his life's ambition to be picked up by one. I have a suspicion that he already has been without knowing it, for he is not really like the rest of us earthmen.

Why do I say so? Because I can think of no other footballer in creation who could have scored that goal against Scotland in Euro 96. Not just because of the skill, the cheek, the style, flipping the ball over the defender's head, running round the other side and launching a volley that went like a howitzer. Because, you may have forgotten, Gazza was playing an absolute stinker at the time.

A normal player would have hidden, played safe, played for his place. Not Gazza. He is incapable of anonymity. I was there: one of two truly great goals I have seen at Wembley. The other

was in an FA Cup semi-final, Spurs against Arsenal, a 40-yard free kick. Gazza took it.

That is the point of Gascoigne. He is wild, crazy, prone to disaster, not as other men are. But if he were ordinary, then he would play ordinary football. Paul Gascoigne is an extraordinary footballer — it is hardly surprising, then, that he is an extraordinary man.

It is a modern heresy, that people are made of various disposable bits and pieces. If only they tried, they could get rid of the nasty and the problematic and the weak bits of themselves and make themselves thoroughly perfect all the way through. But people never manage to do so. Modern divorce statistics all come down to this heresy. Love a person, you must love their faults: they are part of the person you love and they are inextricable.

Gazza will always be extraordinary. It is amazing that he is still capable of playing good football at 30. Because he is a bloody fool. But the fact is that he can, and so the England coach, Glenn Hoddle, cherishes him. And so do we. Never forgetting the bloody folly, etc. Gazza is in trouble, so the tabloids say. But it is only trouble because the tabloids say it is. Graeme Le Saux one over the eight? No story. But Gazza! And so Gazza is accused of a crime that is not a crime, and even if it was, it is a crime that has no victim. Save Gazza himself, of course.



LIFE IS IN THE MOVEMENT

CHRONOMASTER: case in 18 K gold or steel, five year international guarantee. Equipped with the legendary ZENITH EL PRIMERO movement, the only movement in the world to beat at 36,000 alt./hour, chronograph functions coordinated by a column wheel. ZENITH is the Swiss Manufacturer the most often rewarded for its precision by the chronometric observatories.

ZENITH
Swiss Watchmakers since 1851

FOR YOUR NEAREST STOCKIST FREEPHONE 0800 731 8741